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The Week.

In Gov. Johnson's letter announcing his willingness to be a candidate for the Presidency, the public will detect a pleasing note of dignity and strength. The Governor of Minnesota, like the Governor of New York, is not going into a scramble for the nomination. He merely states that, if his party calls upon him, he is ready to do his best to serve it and the country. In affirming that no American citizen "should be an active, open candidate for the nomination to the Presidency," Gov. Johnson takes a position with which even Mr. Bryan is forced to agree—in theory. He, too, professes to be simply asking the rank and file of the party to make their wishes known. But he certainly gives the rank and file pretty frequent nudges. He has a way of turning up at critical moments in States that are lukewarm towards him. Last Friday, for example, he began a fight in Pennsylvania against the Democratic national committeeman, Mr. Guffey, who opposes instructions for Mr. Bryan. At Pittsburgh, Mr. Bryan brought out a man whom he proposes to have chosen in Guffey's place. But this, of course, is only a patient and serene waiting on the will of the party.

"In order to pick up the Illinois delegates to the Denver convention," says the Columbus, O., *Evening Dispatch*, "Mr. Bryan has dropped his quarrel with Roger Sullivan. The delegates will better serve his purpose." But a Taft organ is hardly in position to hurl that particular stone with much effect. Secretary Taft had a famous quarrel with the Roger Sullivan of Cincinnati about the same time that Mr. Bryan was trying to down the Democratic boss of Chicago. Nothing has been heard of that quarrel since the Secretary has been before the country as a candidate for the Presidency, and the party of the second part is now one of the Taft delegation to the Chicago Convention. For the services of Boss Cox in helping to solidify that delegation, the voters of Ohio are now aware that his wishes were carefully considered in the make-up of the Republican State ticket, over and above his restoration to old-time supremacy in the government of Cincinnati. If all this is any more distasteful to Mr. Taft than the position of Roger Sullivan to Mr. Bryan, one can only say that the Secretary has not as yet made his chagrin publicly known.

In one sense little more than a case

of the Dutch taking Holland, the endorsement of Cannon in the Illinois Convention is a reminder that, in the sequence of conventions, most of the ground which Taft expected to control without dispute has now been passed. The weekly summaries of delegates elected have thus far been on their face Taft documents, in so far as a full Taft column with empty spaces beneath the names of rival candidates could convey the impression that all was going Taft's way. Even if these other columns are to contain only the figures of delegates conceded to "favorite sons" from the first, it will materially change the appearance of the tabulations. The early conventions have been, in fact, largely those of picked States and Territories. They were to have given a great initial impetus to the Taft candidacy, but, in spite of his long lead as the elected delegations stand to-day, they have not altogether fulfilled expectations. There are more uninstructed delegates—Rhode Island's eight being among the latest—and far more contested than the Taft managers had expected. The South, instead of extending with true Southern hospitality the invitation to the Republicans of other sections to ride in the band-wagon, has, by wrangling and by revelations of officeholders' activity, deprived its endorsement of all moral and nearly all political effect. Taft's campaign progresses, but it must be remembered that most of the really debatable ground is still to be reached.

A parallel of the deadliest kind could be drawn between the President's letter to Mr. Foulke on officeholders in politics, and the official statement given out from the White House Monday in answer to the protests from Gloucester citizens about the attempt of Federal employees to dictate party nominations. Contrast the indignant denials made to Mr. Foulke with this:

The mere fact that a man is an officeholder does not rob him of his political rights and privileges, and . . . he has a perfect right to attend caucuses, primaries, and conventions, and take an active part in them.

Such language not only eats up Mr. Roosevelt's previous utterances; it goes squarely against the rules which he has officially approved. If he were still a Civil Service Commissioner, and if such gross violations of decency and of Presidential orders were going on under another's Administration, we should get loud moral blasts from him of the kind which he actually emitted when serving under President Harrison and President Cleveland. But now, having set out to name his successor by hook or by crook, he has thrown all his professions about

civil-service reform to the winds. Federal officeholders are everywhere engaging in political work with an effrontery not known since Grant's time.

If this were a less mad world politically, the formal offer of Democratic support for a Republican President's bills, made in the House by Representative John Sharp Williams, might be a piece of constructive statesmanship. It is as true that twenty-five Republicans, by combining with the united Democrats, can put any piece of legislation through the House, as that this is not the way in which important bills get themselves passed eight months before a Presidential election in the United States of America. The fate of the various bills referred to, providing publicity of campaign contributions, a child-labor law for the District of Columbia and the Territories, a law forbidding the issue of injunctions without notice, an employers' liability law that will pass the Supreme Court, free pulp and printing paper, and Federal liability for government employees—these bills, whether they are passed or not, will form part of the record of a Republican Congress. The attitude which the Democrats take on these measures will similarly furnish a legitimate argument why their party should or should not be entrusted with the control of the next House. Because the Republicans like to twit the Democrats with the futility of their efforts and their general lack of constructive ability, we presume that the Republicans, other things being equal, would rather have the Democrats say, "We tried but we couldn't," than "They couldn't do it till we helped."

If the Congressmen who have been muttering against Speaker Cannon wanted a fighting issue, they had it in the so-called Civic Federation bill introduced by Mr. Hepburn of Iowa. The Speaker had referred it to the Judiciary Committee, a crabbed aggregation of lawyers, as full of Constitutional scruples as the Supreme Court itself. Col. Hepburn wanted it to go to his own Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, the one that reported the rate bill and much other beneficent legislation. He is not only a veteran of twenty years service, but a formidable fighter as well. He went about with a resolution to overrule the Speaker, and asked the support of all those who had felt the Speaker's chastening hand. There are many such. It stands to reason that in the five years since Mr. Cannon took up the gavel a large body of grievances has accumulated. So the issue was joined last Saturday on the

question of revolt. The outcome became clear on Monday. It was that the Civic Federation bill would remain with the Judiciary Committee. And there it abides. Congress has done many queer things in its time, but when a member dares the wrath of the Speaker six months before a Presidential election, the outcome may be predicted with some certainty.

George III. was dragged from his grave again last week in the House of Representatives, to give point to the charge that President Roosevelt had attempted to browbeat a member. The alleged victim of Presidential hectoring promptly and handsomely acquitted Mr. Roosevelt of anything more heinous than using "vigorous gestures." The incident arose in connection with the prayer for the impeachment of Judge Wilfley of the United States Court in China. A severe stickler for etiquette might, we think, have objected to the public exoneration of the accused judge by the President and Secretary Root while the case was pending before the Judiciary Committee of the House. Yet the establishment of this American court in China has been a very near the heart of the Administration, and it need not be blamed for coming to the defence of Judge Wilfley. Still, the House has its own duty to discharge in the premises; and a subcommittee has already reported that, while the proofs adduced do not warrant impeachment, they do justify censure. Doubtless we shall hear more of the matter. Meanwhile, leaving George III. to rest in peace, it might be just as well for the House to bear in mind that other English precedent, which forbade members of the Commons to go, and "exasperate" the King.

If hope was entertained by any one that the investigation of the defects in our battleships could be suspended and forgotten, that hope must have vanished in the light of recent developments. Whatever be the feeling of experts, the endorsement of the so-called "Reuter-dahl charges," in substance, by Admiral Evans, will give the greatest possible weight to these allegations in the minds of the people generally. Criticisms that might be passed over for "reasons of state" when uttered by a meddlesome civilian, or even by some cautious upstart in the service, will sound differently to many persons when voiced by "Fighting Bob." As for the attitude of the Senate committee, it has been inexplicable from the first and cannot be maintained much longer. This government cannot be conducted in secrecy, and the body which supplies the millions for our navy ought to welcome every piece of information showing faults that can be remedied in existing vessels, and

avoided in those still to be built. Welcome or not, the truth must come out now; and one part of the truth must be an explanation why a letter like that of Admiral Evans, stating that our battleships, by reason of the position of their armor belts, were no better than armored cruisers, could remain apparently pigeon-holed since last summer.

The Little Peterkin who asks, "What good came of it at last?" in reference to the war for the two-cent fare, gets the answer fainter and fainter. The presidents and general counsels of Western railroads who have just conferred in Chicago, have decided to contest the passenger-fare laws of Illinois and Missouri and the freight rate law of the latter State. In the other States which passed similar statutes similar action will be taken, it is said, though most of these cases must be in the courts already. It is worth noting that, while the decision reached through the ascending series of Federal courts in the Minnesota and North Carolina cases is the basis for the Illinois and Missouri contests, these are probably to be brought before the State courts. That the long and bitter contest over the prerogatives of State tribunals has ended in a vindication of the right of the lower Federal courts to hear these Constitutional issues does not change the general feeling that the normal way to begin the fight on a State statute is in a State court. Pennsylvania's two-cent fare law was set aside without any resort to the Federal judiciary.

The citizens' health committee of San Francisco has issued a circular pointing out that if the plague should increase, the city would probably be quarantined. It therefore recommends a war of extermination upon rats, on the ground that "this plague is primarily a disease of the rat. . . . The flea living on an infected rat becomes infected. If the infected flea bites a human being that person becomes infected." This view is undoubtedly that held by the majority of experts as a result of recent observations and experiments. There are, however, dissenting voices. One San Francisco physician denounces the theory as nonsense; the measures taken for the extermination of rats as "hysterical unreason," and the whole agitation as a sort of "brain-storm." He truly says that the last word has not been spoken on the subject, yet there can hardly be a doubt that the rat is the chief disseminator of the plague, though it may not be the only one. In W. Fischer's "Geschichte des Teufels" some curious facts are given indicating that rats and mice were associated in the popular mind many centuries ago with the plague. Mediaeval monks sold amulets against rats. In India the rat is

the symbol of death. On Greek coins a mouse in front of Apollo makes him the bringer of pestilence, and in Christian demonology the mouse was the symbol of the plague-devil.

The Canadian tariff, enacted in the winter of 1906-7, has sometimes been described as the Tombstone Tariff. This was because of the increased duty on tombstones from Scotland, that was imposed in the interest of the quarrymen of the St. Croix River country. They protested that they could not stand up against the pauper labor of Aberdeen; and so the vaunted preference for Great Britain was thrust aside, and the duty on granite from Scotland increased by 7 1-3 per cent. Quite apart from this fact the term Tombstone Tariff is exceedingly appropriate for the Fielding Tariff of 1907; for under it were finally buried all the pledges of a tariff for revenue only, and all the vehement declarations against bounties to industries from the Dominion Treasury, that were made by Laurier and Cartwright when the Liberals were in opposition at Ottawa from 1878 to 1896. Still, the Tombstone Tariff may register the high-water mark of protection in Canada, so far as the present Liberal government is concerned. The Budget for 1908-9, now before the House of Commons, is one of the most remarkable of the eleven Budgets for which Mr. Fielding, the Minister of Finance, has been responsible. It does not contain, and does not foreshadow, a single new protectionist proposal. There is nothing for the tinplate factory at Morrisburg, Ont., whose product is now entirely outside the tariff breastworks; and, contrary to expectations at Halifax and Sydney, and also at Toronto, Collingwood, and Bridgeburg, Ont., where there are steel ship-building yards, there is not a solitary addition to the bounty list, which has been gradually growing since the Laurier government came into power in 1896. From 1897 to 1907 there was scarcely a session of Parliament in which some new concession was not made to the protected interests. For the present, however, there is to be a halt. In the autumn of this year a general election is due. The scandals—political, financial, and personal—that have been uncovered at Ottawa during the last two years are alarming the government; and, moreover, when the Tariff Commission was travelling from province to province in the winter of 1905-6, it was made clear to the Ministers who composed it—Fielding, Paterson, and Brodeur—that in the West, and also in the provinces east of the Great Lakes, the farmers were displeased with the adoption of the Conservative protection policy by a Liberal government. The change in attitude serves at least to indicate that the Laurier government is really apprehensive

about the farmers' vote in the coming general election.

It is nearly always the weakness of political assassination that, even when it attains its immediate object, it does so at an excessive cost to the cause it would serve. The murder of Durham W. Stevens by a Korean fanatic in San Francisco was doubtless intended to call the attention of the world to what a large section of the Korean people regard as the cruel and oppressive rule of Japan in her new protectorate. Actually, the result of the assassination has been to bring odium on a people which is described as too cowardly to adopt any method of defending its liberties other than assassination. Yet that is not altogether a fair view. The Korean temperament may not be militant; centuries of misrule and oppression may have destroyed the capacity for organized resistance to foreign aggression; yet repeated uprisings in the provinces and unrest at Seoul have shown that even the Korean will turn if sufficiently trodden upon. The very fact that a people so averse to fighting should have been driven to armed resistance against hopeless odds, is good testimony to the wrong they have had to bear. That Japanese rule in Korea during the first two years after the war was tyrannical in the extreme, has never been seriously denied. The defence that such a state of affairs was unavoidable immediately after the relaxed strain of a great conflict may be a good one. Probably, the old Korean Emperor did stand in the way of a better understanding between the conqueror and the conquered. Conceivably, too, Japanese rule may in the end bring good to Korea. Yet the existence of a strong national feeling that will maintain itself in the face of very great odds, is a factor Japan must carefully take into consideration.

Several causes no doubt contributed to the overwhelming defeat of the Liberals in the bye-election in one of the London constituencies. The overturn is startling. Two years ago, the Liberals won the seat for Peckham by a majority of 2,339; last week they lost it to the Conservatives by a majority of 2,494. Such a reversal cannot be due merely to the ordinary "swing of the pendulum" against a party in power. Nor can the slackening of trade, which England has felt in some degree, with the new occasion it has given for pressing Chamberlain's ideas of fiscal reform so as to "make work," alone account for the loss of Liberal votes. More effective must have been the dread of socialistic measures. London's dislike of radical Socialism was clearly shown last year in the elections for the County Council; and since then the cry that the coun-

try must make common cause against Socialism has been raised still more loudly. But the chief reason for the Liberal rout in Peckham, it seems to be agreed, was the government's licensing bill, which proposed to close thousands of saloons. The publicans and their dependents have shown their political power before, and they undoubtedly used it to the full last week in behalf of the Conservatives. The general election of 1900 was said at the time to have been really gained for the Conservatives by "Beer and the Bible"—that is, by concessions to the liquor interests and to the church schools. Peckham certainly seems to have taken kindly to that holy alliance.

The Macedonian problem has been brought a step nearer solution—however far off the end may yet be—by Sir Edward Grey's proposals as embodied in his recent note to the Powers. The "Lebanonization" of Macedonia is already being discussed with warmth by the European press. The British Foreign Secretary's scheme of reform calls for the appointment of a Turkish governor of Macedonia, "whose character and capacity shall commend themselves to the Powers." He is not to be necessarily a Christian, but is to have a free hand in the performance of his duties, to hold office for a stated term, and not to be removed without the consent of the Powers. It is also suggested that the number of Turkish troops in Macedonia be decreased so as to lighten the financial burden imposed on the natives. In return the Porte shall receive from the Powers a guarantee of territorial integrity. So far, the British note has been received with hostile or non-committal skepticism by the Continental press. This, of course, was to be expected. When it has been found impossible to maintain the European Concert for the enforcement of such police regulations as should put an end to the chronic state of massacre in Macedonia, it is still less likely that the establishment of Macedonian autonomy will commend itself to the united judgment of the Powers in the absence of the very extreme pressure. Yet such pressure is almost to be found in present conditions in Macedonia. At least, a great step has been made when a leading Power like Great Britain definitely abandons the present ludicrous game of international hide-and-seek reform for a policy of drastic innovation which from now on must be taken seriously into account by European diplomacy.

That matters in Finland are approaching a crisis, appears from dispatches reporting an open break between the majority in the Diet and the Senate, which has been charged with lending itself to Russia's renewed machinations

for the suppression of Finnish autonomy. The first campaign against Finland began under the Bobrikoff régime, and ended with the surrender of the autocracy as a result of the general upheaval in Russia. The second campaign began late last year when the election of the present pacific Duma showed that the government had the revolutionary movement well in hand. Last February, Governor-General Gerard, who was notoriously acceptable to the Finnish people, was replaced by Gen. Beckmann, who came from the Baltic provinces with a record for sanguinary repression. But M. Stolypin's policy is not the old one of unmixed brutality; it shows an admixture of humor, unconscious, perhaps, but unmistakably present. Last summer, when a bill defining the conditions of naturalization for Russian subjects in Finland was submitted for the Czar's approval, M. Stolypin took his stand, "on the extraordinary principle that, since this bill concerned Russia as well as Finland, it must be dealt with in the manner prescribed for legislative proposals in Russia; that is, it must pass through the Duma and the Council of Empire." Against a Finnish press bill which the government thought too liberal, Premier Stolypin employed the same argument, thus showing himself a far more ardent champion of the rights of the Duma than even M. Milyukoff.

The French press speaks with exultation of recent progress in Algeria and Tunis, as attested by the latest figures on the commercial expansion of the two North African colonies. To a certain extent, enthusiasm may have been stimulated by the desire to keep up the nation's hopes with regard to Morocco; but undoubtedly there is sufficient ground for legitimate pride. The commerce of Algeria, which in 1905 amounted, exports and imports, to 613,000,000 francs, grew to 668,000,000 in the following year and to 774,000,000 in 1907. In Tunis the growth has been from 149,000,000 francs in 1905 to 206,000,000 in 1907. The total for both colonies is thus almost a thousand million francs. In French North Africa, as the *Temps* points out, there are 800,000 Europeans in residence. The anti-colonials are fond of pointing out that the greater part of these are Italians and Spaniards, but French, nevertheless, is the common language. Moreover, economic progress in Algeria has not been fostered at the expense of friendly relations between the natives and the government. The fact that at the present moment the French Parliament has under consideration a project for raising two or three army corps within Algeria for possible service in Europe, shows how confident the government is of the loyalty of the native population.

THE AMBASSADORSHIP MUDDLE.

From every angle of observation, the mishandling of the case of Dr. Hill, who was to have been appointed Ambassador to Germany, appears most unhappy. The vacillations of the Emperor, and the backing and filling of the German Foreign Office, will not help the reputation of German diplomacy for exquisite tact. First, there came the news of Imperial objection to Dr. Hill, notwithstanding the fact of a previous formal assurance that he would be welcomed in Berlin. And exactly what the difficulty was, has not been stated. It was a fault merely hinted and dislike just hesitated. Then, after all the flurry, comes the announcement that whatever opposition had existed has now been withdrawn, and that Berlin will be particularly effusive over Dr. Hill, when he comes as Ambassador.

Yet it is evident that his personal comfort, if not his diplomatic usefulness, as Ambassador to Germany, has been largely destroyed. The relations of an Ambassador to the government to which he is accredited are of such an intimate nature that the mere suspicion of incompatibility is a grave drawback. The President concluded to send Dr. Hill to Berlin, apparently in order to prove that he still thinks him eminently fit for the post, but it is not to be imagined that Dr. Hill could long stay there at ease or with good prospects of success. Despite Bismarck's aversion to Gontaut de Biron, that French Ambassador was kept on at Berlin for a time, but the French government soon found it wise to replace him. So it would almost certainly be with Dr. Hill.

The whole incident speaks of more than diplomatic blundering. What led up to the muddle is even more unpleasant than the misunderstanding itself. Amidst all the motives which are vaguely said to have actuated the German Emperor, one thing is reasonably clear: his desire was to have an American Ambassador who would be able to entertain on a magnificent scale. Ambassador Tower has done this in Berlin. In addition to being a highly cultivated man, he is the possessor of large wealth; and he and his wife have won a great social success. Apparently, the Emperor has thought regretfully of dropping down to an American Ambassador who was merely a scholar, practised in statecraft, whose wife the Kaiser would not be able to refer to as "the Moltke of the German social season." In addition to this local eclipse of fashionable gayety, a certain rivalry between Berlin and London has obviously figured in the case. The American Ambassador to England has lived on a scale which would be called princely, if any princes nowadays had as much money to spend. Mr. Reid's lavish hospitality at Dorches-

ter House, and at the large country place which he has taken the better to figure in the great world, has given him fame, and has doubtless aided him in his real work, but has set a pace which is the envy or despair of other embassies. And, seemingly, the German Emperor has felt that invidious comparisons would be made if, across the North Sea, an American Ambassador should decline the competition in social grandeur. Hence his desire, which, in its expression, has had such unlucky results, that a man of large fortune should be sent to represent the United States in Berlin.

These international jealousies and demands of a social kind are all at the expense of the American diplomatic service. We hear of no such questions of ability to entertain gorgeously raised in connection with the envoys from any other nation. Must we change the old definition, and make it read that an American Ambassador is a man sent abroad to spend \$100,000 a year for his country? The contrast with an earlier day seems painful. When George Bancroft was Minister to Germany, no one asked what was his yearly outlay on cut flowers and champagne. No American diplomatist ever stood higher than George P. Marsh, for so many years our representative in Italy; but he was merely a scholar of international reputation, and a delightful gentleman, who lived on his salary. Lowell's great success in England was won on the contents rather of his head than his pocket. Mr. Bayard was held in high esteem in London, though he was compelled to live modestly. Are such examples no longer possible?

We must, in fairness, admit that the scale of things has inevitably changed during the past twenty years. All must see that social intercourse counts more in diplomacy than it used to; and the standards of hospitality have become more expensive. It is hard to think ill of an ambassador's talk if his wines and his *entremets* are always good. This aside, it is clear that a diplomat can pick up more valuable information, and arrive at a better knowledge of public opinion, in clubs and social gatherings than when shut up in an office. But all these considerations only show how inept our Congress has been in raising so many legations to the rank of embassies, without appropriating money enough to enable our ambassadors to live as they should. We have tried to run our diplomacy on the cheap. The result has been to shut up the choice of ambassadors almost exclusively to rich men. But this is unhappily to narrow the range of selection, and to appear to put up the ambassadorships as prizes for large campaign contributions. The whole system is bad. In a way, Dr. Hill is a victim of it. The shortest and most businesslike way out would be for Congress to pass

one of the pending bills to purchase embassy buildings in the leading capitals, as other nations do, and then to give our ambassadors a salary adequate to their official needs. If we are going into the game, we must play it according to the rules.

A MESSAGE FOR THE CAMPAIGN.

There will doubtless be flippant remarks on the contrast between the gentle roaring of the President's message last week and the cataclysmic violence of the one he sent to Congress on January 31. If this is the right tone for a state paper, that was distinctly the wrong one; and tone, as Lord Palmerston observed, is what makes the song in public utterances. Mr. Roosevelt's quiet communication to Congress inevitably recalls that servant of Sheridan's who dropped a plate-warmer with a crash, but who hastened to assure his master that nothing was broken. "Do you mean to tell me," demanded Sheridan, "that you made all that noise for nothing?"

Some people are already saying that this mild-mannered message indicates a "surrender" on the part of President Roosevelt. Mr. Bryan described the former wrathful message as "a call to arms." The present one he may feel disposed to call the beating of a retreat. But a sounder view would be that we have before us only one proof more of Mr. Roosevelt's extraordinary suppleness as a politician. He can drop the Hercules vein and put on the air of sweet reasonableness quicker than any living man. This is a versatility which he has often displayed. It should be no surprise, therefore, that he appears a changed man when the occasion seems to him to demand it. For there can be no mistake in regarding this message as a deliberate effort of the President to harmonize his party, give it some planks for its platform, and prepare it for the dubious electoral struggle upon which it is entering. This is, at last, a business message. The Republican party is to show once more that the great business interests of the nation are its especial charge. Not in vain did the anxious merchants from the West descend upon the White House. They want some spring trade, and they frankly told Mr. Roosevelt so, and urged him to be calm and rational. Political leaders have been pressing upon him the same duty of moderation. A critical election is impending, and a policy of "get together" is necessary. Hence this temperate message, with not one malefactor eaten alive in it, not one purple patch of vituperation. It is so unsensational as really to be a first-class sensation.

With the President's programme of legislation, no great fault is to be found. Reduced though it is, it is yet far long-

er than Congress will be disposed to adopt in the time that remains. Much as we should like to see that abolition of the tariff on wood pulp and printing paper which Mr. Roosevelt says should be made "forthwith," we do not expect that this session of Congress will abolish it. The horseleeches of protection always cry, "Give"; they do not give up. Vague recommendations of tariff revision at some indefinite time in the future, they may not object to; but when it comes to surrendering their particular share of the protection plunder, they will fight from the first day to the last. Nor can any one really suppose that the complicated question of postal savings banks can be taken up and satisfactorily disposed of before Congress adjourns.

It is upon other measures that the President and the party leaders have decided to concentrate their efforts. They desire a new employers' liability law, drawn so as to conform to the recent decision of the Supreme Court declaring the old one unconstitutional. As there appears to be general agreement on the principle of such a bill, it will doubtless be passed, after the necessary hammering out has been done in committee and in debate. The proposed amendments to the Anti-Trust Act are not so simple. They are advanced in the interest of railroad and industrial corporations on the one hand, and of organizations of laborers and farmers on the other. But the President's description of the plan is very indefinite; he does "not pretend to say the exact shape the bill should take." Yet the "exact shape" is often of the very essence of the bill. Of the formidable document introduced as a bill by Representative Hepburn, we can only say that it is extremely intricate and puzzling. It appears to be an attempt to explain the obscure by the more obscure. If judges have broken their teeth upon the complex Anti-Trust Act itself, they would be in danger of losing their last remaining molar over these Hepburn amendments. These clauses attempt to set up a distinction between good and bad combinations, and between contracts in restraint of trade that are unreasonable, and those which are reasonable. But this is hard, if not impossible, to do in general terms. A better way would be simply to enact that all "unreasonable" contracts in restraint of trade should be illegal, and leave it to the courts to decide in each instance what is unreasonable.

Mr. Roosevelt's attitude towards the demands of labor leaders is a mixture of reasonable concession and firm opposition. He is willing to have abuses of the writ of injunction guarded against. He freely concedes the right of workmen to combine and to strike. But he speaks sober words of warning against "violence, disorder, and co-

ercion," in connection with a strike, and declares that they should be "promptly and sternly suppressed." He is also explicitly against the boycott. "Nothing," he says, "should be done to legalize either a blacklist or a boycott that would be illegal at common law." This position we admire so much that we shall not stop to point out how the President has apparently learned since 1904, when he denied it, that there is such a thing as the common law of the United States.

All told, the message and the political negotiations which lie behind it are to be taken as intended to set the Republican party in battle array. Democrats who had been foolishly thinking that Republican divisions and quarrels would give them an easy victory, must now see their blunder. The Republican genius for political generalship is once more in evidence. It has even been equal to inducing the Rough Rider to get off his horse, and turn his Big Stick into an olive branch.

A CURRENCY COMMISSION.

Senator Aldrich's view of his own currency bill is reported as follows in the *Congressional Record*:

The bill before the Senate is a bill to provide an emergency currency for use whenever emergencies arise. It does not undertake to treat the general question of currency or of banking reform. I realize, and I have so stated to the Senate, the necessity of the immediate consideration and treatment of that subject, and I hope that before the present Congress adjourns legislation will be enacted which will provide for a commission, either a commission of members of the House and Senate, or a mixed commission, to consider this question, with a view of reporting at an early day in the future.

With Mr. Aldrich's ideas of a temporary expedient, considered in themselves, we have had little sympathy. His plan of including municipal and railway bonds in the collateral for an authorized banknote circulation is simply an extension of a very defective existing principle; his "emergency currency" would in all probability be issued, and conceivably to its full limit, before the true emergency had arrived; it might thereby provide machinery for aggravating rather than lessening the perils of inflated credit; and in any case the emergency ostensibly aimed at is never so remote as immediately after a panic, and in the midst of the consequent liquidation. But in the remarks just quoted, the Senator takes a broad and rational view of the general question, even if his conclusion removes the last argument for passing his own measure at once.

Representative Fowler's bill, which has encountered objections of a different nature, has been urged on grounds similar to those at first alleged in support of the Aldrich measure. First, some

reform was imperatively and immediately needed, because the currency caused the panic; or, as Mr. Fowler himself put it, in his speech to the Illinois Manufacturers' Association last December, "If we had had such a system of currency as Canada or France now has, the currency panic of 1907 would never have occurred." Second, this reform must be pushed through while the panic is fresh in mind; as the New York Merchants' Association has argued:

Unless some measure of currency reform is agreed to by the people at a time when their thoughts are centred upon this subject, . . . nothing will be done until another financial cataclysm shall overwhelm the business of the country and again compel attention to the subject.

Third, the measure of reform must not be half-way, but thoroughgoing.

The third of these arguments is so cogent that it kills the first two. On general principles, to say that an intricate problem, involving revolutionary and vital changes in our financial methods, can be enacted at no time except when people are bewildered and exasperated, by the losses of a panic, would be to discredit American common sense. As a matter of fact, our previous history gives no warrant for such an unhappy conclusion. No important currency or banking measure (except the repeal of the Silver Purchase Act in 1893) has ever been enacted directly after a panic. Currency proposals have been pressed to a vote in the excitement of such occasions, but they were measures, such as the Inflation Act of 1874 and the bill for coining the silver seigniorage in 1894, which were fortunately defeated, and in which their own authors took no pride in later years. On the other hand, the two great landmarks of reform in our currency in this generation—the Specie Resumption Act and the Gold Standard Law—passed into the statute books, the one two years and the other six years after the panic which forced the need of them upon the public attention. We are justified, therefore, in saying that, according to experience, hasty law-making after panic is not the way of safety.

The further argument that our existing system caused the collapse of 1907, is not at all convincing. Mr. Fowler has pointed out, what nobody will deny, that a system under which banknotes might have been instantly issued in large quantities, last November, would have mitigated the after-shock of panic and might possibly have prevented some of its more troublesome incidents. But this is not to say that the currency system caused the panic. A competent observer, M. Leroy-Beaulieu, has declared that no currency system in the world could have withstood such a raid on bank deposits as occurred here in October and November.

As to actual causes of the panic, economists are pretty well agreed upon the exhaustion of supplies of ready capital, extreme and precarious use of credit, extravagance in speculation and in private living, distrust excited by scandals in high finance, and inadequate maintenance of reserves, through defective trust-company laws and excessive re-deposit of national bank reserves with other banks, under the National Bank Act. This fallacy of ascribing our troubles to the currency is similar to other fallacies which have been widespread after former panics. Mr. Rhodes, for example, in describing the panic of 1857 in his "History of the United States" remarks that, while every American protectionist declared the low tariff of 1846 to be the real cause of the panic of 1857, European economists, like Max Wirth, did not so much as mention the tariff as a contributory influence. The tariff was brought forward as a cause in 1893—the only difference from 1857 being that in 1893 it was a tariff law which was going to be passed, not one which had been enacted. Nowadays we smile at these vagaries; yet the "currency argument," as applied to 1907, will probably fall into the same limbo.

But this is far from asserting that our present currency system is either adequate, or permanent in its nature, or properly adapted to the country's needs. No competent student of the question holds any such position. Most of them heartily approve Mr. Fowler's declaration that fundamental reform is necessary, and most of them will probably agree that the present Fowler Bill contains numerous valuable ideas which are likely to be of use in the final solution of the difficulty. The serious defects of that measure we have already indicated; their existence adds force to the demand for thorough consideration of the subject by a commission, which should hear evidence, sift opinions, balance theory and principles with experience, and in the light of current criticism frame a comprehensive measure.

THE BOMB-THROWER.

The bomb-throwing in this city on Saturday afternoon is so shocking an affair that emotional persons are likely to attach undue significance to it. Throughout the country, we grant, anarchists and other agitators have lately been showing unusual activity. This fact is not surprising. Every period of financial depression and consequent unemployment and suffering is inevitably marked by gatherings of men out of work, of the discontented and the hungry; and these men always throw the blame for their misfortunes on the powers that be. Such complaints and protests, sometimes running into violence, are one of the serious things which we must reckon with in hard times. But

the particular deed of Saturday seems, according to the evidence thus far available, to have been done by an ill-balanced, perhaps irresponsible, man, acting on his own initiative, without co-operation or even consultation with other anarchists. He was infuriated because the police broke up a meeting which he was attending some days ago, and because they clubbed him personally. Though he may have been actuated in part by a hope of advancing "the cause," he was, nevertheless, largely moved by a desire for private revenge. In short, he was not one of a group of conspirators, and his outbreak cannot be taken as part of a determined campaign of terror.

The immediate pretext for his crime—his plan had apparently been in train since his previous encounter with the police—was the attempt of the authorities to prevent a public meeting of the unemployed in Union Square. To reply to the police by hurling a bomb is a hideous and cruel outrage, for which there is no shadow of excuse. And yet we are by no means sure that the refusal of the authorities to permit the public meeting was well-advised. Affairs of this kind are extremely difficult to handle. At such a gathering as was proposed, inflammatory speakers are likely to incite an inflammable mob; and rioting, damage to property, and even death may conceivably result. Yet it may be more dangerous not to hold the meeting than to hold it. To suppress such a gathering, to forbid men to air their grievances and bring forward their panaceas, will not in the least abate the discontent or allay the irritation. Men who are out of work, who have a grudge against the existing order, are easily provoked to violence; but there is no surer provocation than to deny them free speech. An incendiary orator may set them off; forcible repression by the clubs of the police is almost sure to do so. If you want an explosion, hang the monkey-wrench on the safety-valve and crowd on full steam; if you want to avoid an explosion, open some vent and blow off steam. A knowledge of human nature should convince the authorities, here and elsewhere in the United States, that the policy of suppression must be only a last desperate resort in an extraordinary crisis.

This advice is not doctrinaire: it is the fruit of experience. Of the great cities of the world, London is the one which suffers least from the agitation of anarchists and the raging of the mob. At the reason, we are convinced, is that the police there interfere as little as possible with public gatherings. In Trafalgar Square, Hyde Park, and other great open spaces large crowds collect to listen to agitators of all sorts. Plenty of police are on hand to exercise restraint in case of need. The law in England, as in this

country, is clear and explicit with regard to incitements to disorder and to murder; and the speakers who cross the line may be arrested and brought to account. But the authorities exercise a large and indeed generous tolerance, in accordance with the maxim, *De minimis non curat lex*. They follow this plan, not from any tenderness toward Socialists, anarchists, or any other person who would overturn society, but simply in order to safeguard property and life. The potential crank and bomb-thrower are always with us—like a piece of tinder ready to burst into blaze at the contact of a chance spark. From such peril no vigilance of the police, no restriction on the manufacture of explosives, no domiciliary visits, can completely protect the community. The routine precautions are futile—or worse. The part of wisdom, then, is to offer no provocation, to let the malcontent and the possible terrorist take it out in talk.

Force is but a feeble weapon in dealing with unrest and agitation, because it cannot check the spread of ideas. The police may disperse a mass meeting; but, after all, they have done little or nothing. The abhorrent doctrine runs like a plague through the masses—passed on by word of mouth, by circulars, and by the revolutionary press. There is one way, and only one way, to combat it effectively, and that is by reason. If we cannot marshal arguments to destroy the fallacies and the half-truths upon which the structure of socialistic and anarchistic theory rests, our case is indeed hopeless. Argument with ignorant, hungry, and excited men is, obviously, a formidable undertaking; but still it is the only method in a free country like this. Certainly, the clubs of the police will never put sound ideas into people's heads; on the contrary, every blow is likely to make a convert to the "propaganda of deed." Reason, coolness, and forbearance on the part of men of intelligence are what the hour calls for. This suggestion we offer to our young university graduates who are Socialists, as well as to old and hardened conservatives. In a juncture like the present both sides should refrain from bitter words, which may make mischief. And in particular our authorities, who are so often regarded as the visible embodiment of wealth and power, should see to it that the poor and the weak are not denied a hearing.

THE BRITISH PREMIERSHIP.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's disability is clearly permanent, though it may be hoped that his life will be spared. He has, in fact, ceased to be Prime Minister. The work of that office has been practically transferred to Mr. Asquith, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is everywhere recognized as the new head of the Liberal government.

This great change has been quietly made. Indeed, there is no recognized official machinery for choosing a Prime Minister. He is indicated, rather than elected. The Cabinet being now, in effect, a committee of the House of Commons to carry on the government, one of its members becomes a sort of chairman of it. The very word Prime Minister is unknown to English law. Lord Beaconsfield signed the Berlin Treaty as "Prime Minister of England," but, as it has been pointed out, this was both unauthorized and inaccurate: if he was Prime Minister of anything, he was of Scotland and Wales as well. The fact that the law makes no distinction between Ministers of the Crown was the basis of the question put to one Prime Minister—Lord Palmerston, we believe—by a colleague, who querulously wanted to know what the difference was between the Premier and any other Minister. "The difference is," was the reply, "that if we disagree, it is you, and not I, whose duty it is to resign."

Mr. Asquith has been signalized for the succession by his abilities, by his position, and by the fact that no Liberal with a better title to the Premiership arose to contest it with him. The Chancellor of the Exchequer is a man of clear and powerful mind. Both as a Parliamentary debater and a public orator he has displayed fine quality. Then, he is a vigorous master of public business. Practically Leader of the House for the past two months he has, as even his political opponents admit, done his work with much energy and skill. And it is a great advantage for a Prime Minister to be also Leader of the House. This brings him into that sensitive touch with the Commons without which no Premier can feel sure of himself or his policy. One of Lord Salisbury's handicaps as Prime Minister was that he could not be in the House. He had to delegate to another the duty of finding out what the Commons would "stand." Mr. Asquith will be Leader of the House as well as Prime Minister. This will put him in line with the best traditions and the highest efficiency of the British Premiership.

He will, however, succeed to the leadership of his party under trying conditions. His difficulties are both personal and political. He has the repute of being a "cold" man, able but austere. This objection to a public man is often silly, but has a certain amount of force in the case of one who, like Mr. Asquith, is called to lead a heterogeneous and somewhat discordant party. For such a task, Campbell-Bannerman was most felicitously endowed. He had great good-nature, infinite tact, and a kind of easy familiarity and burly Scotch sense that made him just the man for the job. Moreover, Sir Henry had fought the battle of Liberalism through good report and ill. To his lasting honor, all through

the dark days of the Boer war, when to differ with the popular frenzy of the hour was to get one's self branded a "traitor," Campbell-Bannerman held stoutly for fair play, humanity, and international justice. At that period Mr. Asquith, however, stood aloof. It is inevitable, therefore, that the Liberals of the old ideals should accept his leadership with a certain reluctance. Partly in deference to them, he will doubtless make some changes in the Cabinet. That Winston Churchill and Mr. Lloyd-George will be promoted, and Lewis Harcourt recognized, is regarded as among the certainties.

Politically, obstacles are clearly multiplying before the Liberal party, and so before its chief. Popular sentiment, fickle as ever, seems to be veering decidedly against the government. A series of bye-elections has not merely led to the loss of several seats, but revealed a marked falling off in the Liberal vote even where seats were saved. Of course, the party in power never admits the significance of bye-elections. And equally, of course, the Opposition always insists that they have a vital meaning. Mr. Balfour, after seeing bye-elections go against him for three years, and pooh-poohing them as trifles, is now eagerly dwelling upon the Liberal reverses, though compelled to add, with the memory of his own crumbling Premiership still fresh in the general mind, that he does not regard their evidence as absolutely conclusive. But there is no doubt that the tide is now running against the Liberals. Their hold on power must be secure for a couple of years yet, barring accidents, but it will take a militant leadership of political genius to prevent their going out of office at the next general election.

Much will depend upon industrial and social conditions during the coming months. For a certain kind of political crisis, Mr. Asquith's qualities admirably fit him. If there is to be an anti-Socialist reaction, no one is better suited than he to lead it. He is cautious, clear-headed, economical, legal-minded. To expose and confute and resist Socialism, he is well adapted. Such a course may prove popular for a time, and may serve to strengthen him and his party. But purely defensive tactics will not suffice, nor will even a correct and thrifty conduct of public business. In these days of fermenting ideas, a political party has to identify itself with some great forward movement. Lord Cromer has aptly described a Prime Minister as "a man in a surf-boat, at the mouth of an African river, waiting for a swell to carry him over the bar. If it is a question of a great wave of public sentiment in England, we think that a cool survey of Mr. Asquith's powers would not encourage the hope that he would be a man either to arouse it or to profit by it.

SICK-MEN WRITERS.

The theory that genius is a form of disease has been terribly overworked by Lombroso and his imitators; and for some time back it has seemed to be enjoying a needed rest. But a new application of it has just seen the light in France, of a sort to make previous extravagances of the kind seem tame. For it is no less a man than Montaigne who is now affirmed to have been a neurasthenic. "Montaigne malade et médecin" is the title of an inaugural thesis lately presented at the University of Lyons by Dr. Raymond Delacroix. It seems that a course in "literary pathology" is maintained at that institution; and the bold theorist struck high at the man of whom it was affirmed by Sainte-Beuve—who was, to be sure, merely a critic and not a pathologist—"Montaigne is the wisest Frenchman that ever lived." If Montaigne, nevertheless, can be proved to be one whose wisdom was a by-product of sickness, then no one is safe. We shall next be told that Benjamin Franklin was a hypochondriac.

Dr. Delacroix goes about his task in the usual way. He collects painfully every minute scrap of evidence that Montaigne was not thoroughly sound physically. The essayist confesses that he suffered from the stone; hence, we have the formidable diagnosis: "A clear case of arthritism, manifesting itself in renal lithiasis and nephritic colic." But that is only a beginning. Montaigne was, on his mother's side, descended from Spanish Jews. It is well known that Jews are frequently neuropaths; accordingly we have our man possessed at the start of a *damnosa hereditas*. Furthermore, by a certain amount of peering and prying and inferring, it can be plausibly made out that Montaigne had other morbid symptoms. Dr. Delacroix enumerates: "a taste for solitude; a melancholy turn of spirit; love of long journeys; vanity; ambition." To a mere ignorant outsider, this does not seem necessarily fatal, but to a professor in a "laboratory of legal medicine," it is clear that Montaigne was in a very bad way. If he gave the world pearls of thought, they were merely pearls secreted by his diseased tissues.

The attempt to explain Montaigne by ill health seems so absurd that one hesitates to take it soberly. May it not be simply a clever academic play of wit, intended to throw ridicule upon the whole solemn process of proving that all great wits are near allied to madness or disease? But Henry Roujon treats the thesis with the utmost seriousness in the Paris *Figaro*, even if he does make merry at some of its contentions. One of his neatest points is his citation of Montaigne's refusal to go and be a companion of the King. This from the man of consuming ambition! But, then, was it not a proof of that love of solitude which Dr. Delacroix shows to be patho-

logic? The truth is, you never can catch these sick-man theorists. Your best evidence of health they pityingly take and read into it a proof of morbidity. It was bound to come, we suppose—this magisterial demonstration that Montaigne was a confirmed invalid and neurasthenic. The writer who stood for the very type of sanity and clear vision and detached judgment—the man who said of himself, "Je ne foye rien sans gayeté"—he had at last to be held up before us as a pining victim of melancholia.

We have often thought that the great trouble with these professors of literary pathology is that they are not sick themselves. They appear to reason by a process of unconscious personal contrast. "Herè am I," one of them seems to say, "perfectly sound in wind and limb. Every organ functions perfectly; and I have neither an ache nor a pain. Now, it must be this robust health of mine that really differentiates me from a genius. I know well that I cannot pen a sentence which the world will read twice—lucky for me if it reads it once—and to me the inference is irresistible that the only reason why others write so much better than I is that they are in so much worse health than I. If I were a nervous dyspeptic like Carlyle, or ate pie for breakfast like Emerson, I should rival their fame."

"We cannot understand Montaigne," affirms Dr. Delacroix, "until we know that his work was that of a sick man." Then he must have been a "malade malgré lui," wittily retorts M. Roujon, who adds that the thought of Montaigne is "the plainest chapter in the history of French health." Of course, a great writer may have bodily ailments. He may exhibit melancholy now and then. What should we think of him if he did not, the world being what it is? If he had foreseen his pathologic critics and *not* been melancholy, we should be willing to surrender him to their ravages. Genius will remain inexplicable and incommunicable, do what we will. But the sick-man readers of the riddle are woefully astray. Good work is the product of vigor, not of decay; it may be vigor triumphing over poor health, but it is vigor.

NEWS FOR BIBLIOPHILES.

William Loring Andrews, veteran collector of books and prints relating to New York, has added another to his list of charmingly written and printed books about his native city. This little volume just printed by the Gillis Press, 115 copies only, is a memoir of the first poet of New Netherlands, Jacob Steendam. Appended are translations of Steendam's three publications in verse relating to the colony: "The Complaint of New Amsterdam to Her Mother," printed in Dutch as a broadside in 1659; "The Praise of New Netherland," or "t' Lof van Nuw-Nederland," printed in 1661; and the "Prickel Vaersen," printed in

1662. Murphy's copies of the first two books are in the John Carter Brown and Lenox Libraries, respectively. The "Prickel Vaersen" were incorporated in a pamphlet by Peter Cornelison Plockhoy, in which he set forth a plan for establishing a colony of Mennonites on the Delaware River. Judge Pennypacker's copy brought \$420 in 1906. These are three American nuggets of the first rarity.

A number of important rarities, partly from the library of John D. Elwell, are in the Anderson Auction Company's sale, in this city, of April 6 and 7. In early English poetry are several rare volumes, some from the Lefferts collection; "Sir Philip Sydney's Ourania," by Nathaniel Baxter, 1606; Tasso's "Godfrey of Bulloigne," translated by Richard Carew, 1594; also the translation by Edward Fairfax, 1600; two books by Thomas Churchyard, "Cardenus Comforte," 1573, and the "First Parte" of his "Chippes," 1578; Samuel Daniel's "Civile Wares," 1609, and his "Whole Workes," 1623; Dekker's "Satiromastix," 1602; Drayton's "Poly-Olbion," 1613-22, two parts in one volume; also his "Poems," 1619, and his "Battaile of Agincourt," 1627; Fletcher's "Purple Island," 1633; Lord Brooke's "Learned and Elegant Workes," 1633; Heywood's "Troia Britanica," 1609, "Gynaikion," 1624, and "The Hierarchie of the Blessed Angels," 1635; Lilly's "Sixe Court Comedies," 1632; Milton's "Paradise Regained," 1671, the Foote copy; and Quarles's "Emblemes," 1635. Of modern English writers there are first editions of Dickens (a long series); Shelley's "Laon and Cythna," 1818, with an interesting autograph letter written to Ollier, the publisher, and relating to the book; Thackeray's "Vanity Fair," a fine copy in the original numbers; and first editions of Swinburne, Tennyson, and Matthew Arnold. Among the illustrated books is a wonderfully fresh copy in parts of Combe's "English Dance of Death," and a set of his three "Tours," first editions, both illustrated by Rowlandson; a complete set, nineteen volumes, of Cruikshank's Comic Almanac; and Brough's "Life of Sir John Falstaff" in parts.

From another source come some attractive presentation copies of American books, first editions of Lowell, Emerson, and Bryant, given to Lydia Maria Child. The Lowell items, the most interesting, are: "A Year's Life," 1841, Lowell's first book, with inscription "For Mrs. Child, with the love of Maria White" (before her marriage to Lowell); "Poems," 1844, published late in 1843, with inscription by Lowell, dated January 1, 1844; "Conversations on Some of the Old Poets," 1844, with inscription "To Mrs. Child, with the affectionate regards of James & Maria Lowell," dated January 15, 1845; "Poems," 1848, published in the autumn of 1847, with inscription dated December 23, 1847. The Emerson items include "Essays," 1841; "Essays, Second Series," 1844; "Representative Men," 1850; and "English Traits," 1856. The first was presented to the Rev. Convers Francis, brother of Mrs. Child, and the others to Mrs. Child. To her also Bryant gave "The Fountain," 1842, and "Thirty Poems," 1864, and these two books are included in the sale. Gov. Robert Hunter's "Androburos, a Biographical Farce," was printed by William Bradford in New York in 1714, but only one copy is known. This, former-

ly John Philip Kemble's, is in the Duke of Devonshire's collection. A transcript made in 1880 for George H. Moore, librarian of the New York Historical Society and later of the Lenox Library, was acquired by the late Thomas J. McKee, and, in his sale in 1900 brought \$101. It is now offered again. Superb copies of Robert Roger's "Journals," and "Concise Account of North America," 1765, are among other Americana offered.

Manuscript verses by Whittier, T. B. Aldrich, Eugene Field, Frank Dempster Sherman, and Helen Hunt Jackson, as well as letters of Longfellow, Lowell, Dickens, Bulwer, Thomas Jefferson, Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, and others are included in the Merwin-Clayton Sales Company's auction in this city April 9.

Stan V. Henkels of Philadelphia will sell on April 8 and 9 a collection of letters and manuscripts, including a number from the collection of Bayard Taylor. Among these are letters addressed to Taylor from President Lincoln, Dickens, Poe, Hawthorne, Emerson, Irving, and Lowell; also the autograph manuscript, ten pages, of Longfellow's "Prometheus and Epimetheus"; an interesting letter of Keats, written to his sister; and a letter from Charles Lamb. Coming from other sources are letters of Washington, John Adams, Jefferson, Monroe, Lincoln, and other Presidents, generals of the Revolution and civil war, Cabinet officers, authors, and statesmen.

From a bibliographical point of view the sale of Ludwig Rosenthal, Munich, is of great interest for its catalogues. Its latest issue, No. 119, with more than 3,000 numbers, fully illustrated, treats of genealogies and heraldics in all their ramifications. The works are in Latin, German, and Spanish.

RECENT FRENCH FICTION.

PARIS, March 14.

There must be in France a relatively larger number of readers of books which are not novels, for certainly the predominance of fiction during the publishing season is not so great in Paris as in London or New York. Among the many novels which appear, some are too local in interest, others too "French" in the foreign sense, and yet others too mediocre—idle dreams of empty days—to deserve notice. A chronicle like the present can only single out the few which rise to general human interest or are signed by names already favorably known abroad.

"Les Yeux qui s'ouvrent" by Henry Bordeaux marks a great step forward in the sure progress of this sympathetic writer toward high literary fame and the Academy. His novels are at least as readable as those of Mrs. Humphry Ward; our mothers would have found them more correct. In purely literary merit, style, and language they are superior to either René Bazin or Paul Bourget, although they have neither the worldly interest nor the passion of timely social controversy of the latter. Yet this new novel reaches down to those sentiments of married life that are the basis of what we call home and the French call family. An immediate comparison is possible with "The Helpmate" of May Sinclair, in which an English woman tries to read her sex (and over their

shoulders the adverse sex) the same lesson which the Frenchman expounds in his touching story. Both deal with domestic unions in the higher and intelligent middle class. The lesson of the two books is intended to be the same—but how much more amiable with the French author! With him the capable, but undeveloped, wife has indolently neglected to rise to the level of a cultivated husband with literary ambitions and worldly success. The English heroine, from her narrow, unreasoning, and utterly unlovely height of religious conscience, cannot come down to the bodily needs of a weak, easy, good-natured husband. Perhaps English novels are not read by men; but certainly every thinking man will acknowledge that his sex suffers less at the hands of the French male novelist. Tennyson's dictum—"As the husband is the wife is"—is not verified in the English book at all, but in the French novel it is reversed by the awakening of will in the heroine. Thus lifted to intellectual heights, she calls back her husband, and reconstitutes the broken family. Those who still hold to that insular depreciation of the French women which John Stuart Mill, after years of residence in French families, so deeply deplored, will find pleasant correction in the book of Henry Bordeaux. It may not be amiss to know that he is himself the son of many generations of an ideal French family, holding high position in the magistracy of Savoy.

"La Route rouge" of Georges Ohnet is sure to be readable and proper, and to deal with subjects that here and now interest proper people. This time he handles the *bourgeois*, respectable property owners of that middle class to which Mr. Gladstone said he was proud to belong—and so say all of us in our present democracies. But there is a new Demos coming and the Socialist year of jubilee. All readers of Georges Ohnet will delight in the romance which leads his Socialist millionaire to deposit money, stocks, and bonds safely in British and Belgian banks—"in countries more sage than France"—before he "throws himself into Socialism without one afterthought!" His daughter naturally is in love with a lieutenant of dragoons.

"Le Port d'attache," by Léon de Tinseau, begins the twenty-fifth year of his successful publications for readers who do not care to hide their books when the young person is around. He has been once crowned by the French Academy; his books are among the good sellers. It is worth remarking, if only because of the elusive charm of polite society in his writings, that this writer is an authentic count, with connections among the old families of Franche-Comté and Burgundy; it was his ancestor who bore the keys of the good city of Besançon to Louis the Fourteenth. He is sixty-five years old; was a lawyer; and then held office under Conservative rule—all which, perhaps, explains why he never shoots the modern cascades in literature and life.

With Maurice Montégut's "Le Roi sans trône," we come on more recent modes of writing, corresponding to a state of nerves which has lost the old traditional horror of making scenes. His hero is the hapless 'lost Dauphin—Louis the Seventeenth—whom numberless historians are still proving to have died, or not to have died, in his

prison of the Temple. In the novel, of course, he escapes, to make love and fight under Napoleon. "La Figurante," by Léon Frapié, continues behind the scenes the "naturalist" stories of this writer, who became famous by carrying off the prize of the Goncourt Academy. In private life he is a typical French functionary at the Prefecture of the Seine. Civil service has left him leisure for kindly and minute observation of Parisians struggling for life. "Le Temps d'aimer," by Gérard d'Houville, is in the usual line of this author, the wife of the poet Henri de Regnier (who one year gave the Harvard Conférences), and a daughter of the poet Hérédia, through whom she has certain American affinities. Apart from the almost exaggeratedly elaborated thought and style, the title shows the constancy of her devotion to Amour.

It is sufficient to note, by the way, "Mademoiselle Arguillis," by Madame André Corthis, whose volume of poems—"Gemmae et moires"—was rewarded by the Vie Heureuse prize. "Armelle et son mari," by Renée Fauver, is a highly honest story of a young fellow who is not content with the silver spoon born in his mouth, but tries for ready money in marriage. He is properly wiped out in consequence by his own father at the Stock Exchange, and then does what he ought to have done at the beginning—falls in love with his wife, who saves him. This is the second book of a promising writer, whose stories are devoid of metaphysics, but full of wit and graceful surprises.

Those who think Frenchmen destitute of humor should try at Max Maurey's "Les Aventures de M. Haps." The hero has already appeared in one of the great successes of the Théâtre Antoine—"L'Asile de nuit." The novel takes him up where the play left him, and shows how he continued to thrive without work—"the least remunerative of all occupations." Journalism, theatre, politics; in everything fortune comes to him, eating, drinking, and sleeping—until we perceive that all these puppets make up a searching satire of Parisian life. In fact, Max Maurey is founder and director of that extraordinary Paris theatre of the Grand Guignol. The respectable *Monde illustré* first published this book. S. D.

Correspondence.

COÖPERATION IN ENGLISH TEACHING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Permit me to add a few words to the discussion of the teaching of English in schools and colleges, especially in regard to coöperation with the professor of English.

It will not be possible to carry out the views set forth by Prof. J. H. Gardiner of Harvard, in your issue of March 19, until the majority of teachers recognize the truth that practical mastery of the elements of composition in the student's vernacular is of greater importance than anything else taught in the schools. In the present day of specialties the tendency is for each teacher to concentrate his attention on his own subject, and to regard it as unfair to depress the standing of a student of mathematics or chemistry on

account of blunders in English. At least a few of us, however, are willing to insist that the teaching of English is inextricably bound up with the teaching of most other subjects. Clearness of thought may possibly exist without the power of clear expression, but clearness of expression requires clearness of thought. The present writer has for many years been a professor in one branch of physical science. In the annual catalogue he finds it best to specify the prerequisites for admission to his first-year class, which include elementary mathematics "and, especially, English composition." This, of course, does not mean that the applicant would be excluded on account of previous deficiency in English, but it merely serves to prepare him for the application of tests that may be inconvenient if he is thus deficient. For the conduct of written recitation, which is required of every student one or more times each week, a series of printed instructions is given. One of these is as follows:

You will be marked down for such bad handwriting, and such gross violation of the rules of English composition as may interfere with clearness and definiteness of expression.

The number of students "plucked" is necessarily increased to some extent, but the student's respect for the course English I. grows accordingly. It is scarcely necessary to add that the plan is heartily approved by the professor of English.

W. LE CONTE STEVENS.

Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Va., March 20.

A PLEA FOR THE INFANT CRITICS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: May I be allowed a few words in reply to Prof. J. H. Gardiner's interesting letter on "Our Infant Critics," in your issue of March 19? I am ready to admit that practically all boys and most men, are incapable of "crystallizing their impressions of what they read into coherent expression." It is undoubtedly true that more attention should be given, in our schools, to practical needs—letter-writing, explanation of matters connected with daily, immediate life—to things which most boys can learn to do and which all men must do. I nevertheless still find room for the "infant critic."

In the first place, whatever the inability of grown persons to talk coherently about books, the fact remains that nearly all do discuss books. Often their reading is limited to deplorable stuff, but they, notwithstanding, attempt to express their ideas about that stuff. Frequently, moreover, one feels, when one hears a book discussed, how well, after all, that fellow has understood what he has read, and how "cleanly" he might have "got off the stage" if he had but had a little practice. There is, perhaps, not so pressing a need for this sort of practice as for drill of other kinds, but there is nevertheless great need for it. It is hardly likely, furthermore, that men will learn how to discuss books if they do not begin the practice before they are men. Much that boys write or say about literature must, of course, be absurd; it is discomfiting enough to be told that "Shakespeare didn't do things that way"—though the idea possesses great possibilities of

truth could one but come at the antecedent of "way." The significant thing really is, not whether a boy can write adequate criticism, not even whether he ever shall do so, but whether he is growing. Shall we give up Greek because a boy spoils Homer in the translation, because, relatively speaking, "few mature readers" of Homer can do much better? Of course, there is no justification, except humorous or diabolic, of a teacher's assigning as a topic for composition "The Madness of Hamlet" rather than some simple subject from Scott or Stevenson. But some small literary discussion the boy must have, or he will enter college critically toothless.

In support, moreover, of beginning literary criticism before college, it may be added that the majority of men who are not in close touch with boys underrate the intelligence and maturity of boys in their last years at school. Nothing is more amusingly corroborative of this statement than the attempt of preachers and lecturers, who, in visiting a school for the first time, strive not to talk "over the heads" of their hearers, and who, in consequence, usually talk under the feet of the whole school. Boys may be absurd in their judgments, may flounder pitifully if the waters are quite too deep; but among their absurdities they often strike, in the untrammelled ingenuousness and enthusiasm of youth, on expressions almost Elizabethan in insight and picturesqueness. No boy, of course, should be given a task which his obvious youth resents, any more than a child should have meat forced into its toothless mouth. But suppose the teeth begin to grow?

The great trouble, it seems to me, is not with the subjects, but with the methods. If a boy is expected to return second-hand what the teacher himself got second-hand and delivered imperfect to the boy, the article when it reaches its last resting place, the desk of the long-suffering examiner, will perforce be "damaged" and should rightly be "marked down." Little is more pathetic than a boy striving faithfully to say what he thinks the teacher thinks he ought to think. When a boy, on the other hand, is given a book and told to say fearlessly exactly what he thinks about some feature of it, he frequently comes, in his crude way, surprisingly near the mark. Once, for instance, a boy, writing on "The Vicar of Wakefield," said, in conclusion: "It is a dull book, though it may have been interesting a hundred years ago, when they [?] did not have many very exciting things to read." This, instead of showing the boy's inability to criticise, reveals that he was able, in fairly "coherent expression," to set down what the majority of modern grown-up readers would themselves have written.

The inability of boys to write at least elementary criticism of literature can be largely laid, indeed, at the teacher's door. There is a superstition that the mature scholar is the only person of whom first-hand work should be expected; yet the beginner, the impressionable boy, is really the person who must be made, so far as he is able, to look things up for himself, to form his own opinions. Not until he has done this is he ready for instruction in literature. When, however, he is fortified with one or two opinions of his own mak-

ing, he can safely be corrected; he can still be led, but no longer led far astray.

WALTER S. HINCHMAN.

Groton School, March 24.

THE ANGLO-SAXON CLASSICS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: A letter in your issue of February 20, by William C. Lane, entitled "A Warning to Book Buyers," calls for a sequel with reference to the Anglo-Saxon Classics, published by the so-called Norroena Society. The series of fifteen volumes consists in the main of reprints of standard translations of English, Norse, and German sagas, got up in the true subscription style, with gorgeous bindings, cheap illustrations, etc. The matter is, of course, irreproachable. Malory's "Morte d'Arthur," under the title of "The Arthurian Tales," is doubtless just as good reading as any one-dollar edition with the usual title. Dasent's superb translation of the *Burnt Njal Saga* appears with a greatly abridged introduction such as Putnam uses in his \$1.25 reprint. One finds here Elton's translation of *Saxo Grammaticus* made for the English Folk-Lore Society, and published in 1893. Dasent's translation of popular Norse tales comprises another volume. Laing's translation of the *Heimskringla* fills two or three more—a translation, by the way, much inferior to that of Morris and Magnusson. And so on through most of the list.

There is nothing wrong in collecting a series of translations by reputable scholars, nearly all readily accessible in inexpensive editions, binding them pretentiously and selling them at a good round sum; but the buyer should know what he is getting, and here is where the circular describing the issue and the inspired harangue of the agent are misleading. The impression is created, that the series has been compiled with great difficulty, that the translations are either made expressly for the Norroena Society, or are so difficult of access that the ordinary reader would never be likely to find them. The list of translators, nearly all eminent men, is given without comment, leaving the unwary to infer that they are part of the Norroena staff. As seven of them are already dead, the effect is all the more ridiculous. Some of the statements are even more than merely misleading. According to the circular, the *Flatey Book* "is now for the first time printed," when in reality an edition was printed in Copenhagen in 1868 by Vigfusson and Unger. Of *Saxo Grammaticus* we are told that "this most extraordinary work is printed for the first time in English by the Norroena Society," in spite of the Elton translation, already mentioned. This translation comprises only nine of the sixteen books, but the agent informed me that the translation was absolutely complete; and the prospectus leaves the same to be inferred, without actually saying so. The whole prospectus is filled with exaggerations, of which the following are samples: Of the *Njal Saga* it is stated that it is invaluable to those who would thoroughly know the source and earliest application of our common law code;

To this work may be traced the origin of trial by jury, representative legislation, the influence of public opinion on the con-

duct of affairs, the Magna Charta, the Declaration of Independence.

The Edda (which one is not definitely stated) is described as "the greatest of all epic poems, greater than the *Iliad*, *Odyssey*, *Kalevala*," etc.

As in the case of the "International Congress," the price asked is much greater than that which the agent will accept if he can effect a sale "to introduce the book."

HENRY A. PERKINS.

Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., March 24.

A CALENDAR OF THE CORRESPONDANCE GÉNÉRALE, LOUISIANE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Some of the officials in the archives of the Ministry of the Colonies in Paris propose, if they can get a sufficient number of subscriptions, to print a detailed calendar of the documents in the series called *Correspondance Générale, Louisiane*, together with the letters sent and such other material relating to Louisiana as may be found in the Colonial Archives. It will be a useful guide to a large number of volumes of manuscripts in the archives which are of high importance to the history of our Southwest. The work would be published in one or two volumes, at a price of between ten and twenty francs. All who take an interest in its promotion, and who could insure subscriptions to the volume, should write to M. Wirth at the archives of the Ministry of the Colonies, expressing such encouragement.

J. F. JAMESON.

Carnegie Institution of Washington, March 26.

PHOTOGRAPHIC REPRODUCTIONS OF MANUSCRIPTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I have read with much interest the two letters in the *Nation* of March 5 and 19, referring to the "Méthode Graffin," for copying valuable manuscripts, etc. A great objection to this process is the fact that you have to handle the manuscripts every time you need a fresh copy, whereas, if a negative be made in the first case, any number of copies can be taken from it, by very cheap processes, without damage to the manuscript. A negative on the sensitive gelatine films, with or without the celluloid or glass supports, is now very cheap, and will produce far more satisfactory results than the white upon black process by reversal with a mirror or prism.

As I am travelling, I have not access to the copies which I have made in this way both in American and European libraries; accordingly I have tried with the insufficient apparatus at my disposal in a hotel bedchamber, using no other mirror for reversal than the common toilet-glass. Of the samples which I enclose, two are on bromide paper by the "Méthode Graffin," which I have used more or less for twenty years, while the blue prints are from celluloid films, taken in the same way, by reversal with a toilet mirror; only, being reversed, they were printed from the back instead of the front of the negative. The result is much better than in the case of white upon gray prints, for good black I could not produce by this "Méthode Graffin."

A SEPTUAGENARIAN AMATEUR.

Providence, R. I., March 23.

SHAKESPEARE ON VIVISECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I am surprised that anti-vivisectionists have not quoted Shakespeare on their side, who has thus put himself on record ("Cymbeline," Act I., Scene 5):

Queen: . . . I will try the forces
Of these thy compounds on such creatures as
We count not worth the hanging—but none
human—

To try the vigor of them, and apply
Allayments to their act; and by them gather
Their several virtues and effects.

Cornelius: Your highness
Shall from this practice but make hard your
heart;
Besides, the seeing these effects will be
Both noisome and infectious.

G. P.

New York, March 28.

Notes.

A new "Turk's Head" edition of Goldsmith's works, edited by Peter Cunningham, is announced by G. P. Putnam's Sons for this spring. It is to be in ten octavo volumes, with eighty full-page illustrations in photogravure, and promises to be one of the notable publications of the season.

The Oxford University Press is about to bring out "Critical Essays of the Seventeenth Century," in three volumes, edited by Prof. J. E. Spingarn. This work begins where Professor Smith's "Elizabethan Critical Essays" left off, and omits Dryden's essays which have already been so well edited by Professor Ker.

E. P. Dutton & Co. are publishing an important work on "English Socialism of To-day, Its Teachings and its Aims Examined," by the Rt. Hon. H. O. Arnold-Forster. The author is the adopted son of the Rt. Hon. W. E. Forster, and was Minister of War in Balfour's late Government.

The Princeton University Library announces a study of "The Continental Congress at Princeton," by Varnum Lansing Collins. The description of Congressional life on its informal side is said to have been drawn largely from new sources.

The fourth publication of the Club for Colonial Reprints (Box 1275, Providence, R. I.) will be issued in April, with the title: "Invitation Sérieuse aux Habitants des Illinois by Un Habitant des Kaskaskias," reprinted in facsimile from the original edition published at Philadelphia in 1772. The only copy of this account of the pre-Revolutionary settlements in the upper Mississippi valley which is now known to be in existence is preserved in the collection of the Library Company of Philadelphia. The tract was brought to light through the researches of Clarence W. Alvord, the vice-president of the recently organized Mississippi Valley Historical Association, and of Clarence E. Carter of the University of Illinois. They have coöperated in writing the Introduction and in preparing the brief bibliographical notes which are appended. The original tract was issued without any statement of the place or date of printing. Dr. Victor H. Paltsits, the State Historian of New York, who contributed a bibliographical section to the third publication of the club, has again aided by solving this difficulty. One hundred copies of this volume have been printed,

and such copies as are not taken by members of the club are offered for sale.

With a view to the completion of the Memoirs of the late Carl Schurz all persons having unpublished letters written by him are respectfully requested to send them to his daughter, Miss Agathe Schurz, No. 24 East Ninety-first Street, New York city. Copies will be made, and the originals will be returned to the owners.

One might suppose that the Rev. S. Baring-Gould had exhausted the antiquities of the West Country. Far from it. Here is a volume of "Devonshire Characters and Strange Events" (John Lane Co.) of some eight hundred pages, scrappily put together, to be sure, but containing a good store of entertainment. The greater names of Devon—Raleigh, Drake, Reynolds, Coleridge, etc.—have already been dealt with by the author; there remain for him some sixty or seventy minor characters, quaint or famous, which he takes up in successive chapters. In treating so well-known a person as John Gay, he does not attempt to give the full life of the poet, but tells the story of "The Beggar's Opera" and gives an account of the extraordinary chair of Gay's that turned up at a sale in 1818, with its complicated mechanism for ease and work and its secret drawer for MSS. Perhaps the most entertaining pages are those which relate the startling methods of Dr. John W. Budd in curing hysterical patients. His common method with such cases was outrageous bullying, in which he seems to have been remarkably successful. Nor were hysterical women the only deceivers to feel his anger and wit; thus:

A miserly old fellow who was well off in worldly goods visited Dr. Budd at his "cottage" in Westwell Street, and, thinking to save the guinea fee, dressed himself in rags. The Doctor recognized him, but listened patiently to the old man's tale, and then asked him where he lived, to which he replied by naming a very poor part of the village near his own residence and using a feigned name.

The Doctor said: "Do you know who lives in that big house in the place with the door that has a pediment over it?" To which the old man replied, "Yes," and mentioned his own name.

"Then," said Dr. Budd, "call on that gentleman on your way home, and tell him that the devil will have him in a fortnight."

A few days beyond the fortnight the old gentleman actually died.

"He was God-like in his great fatherhood; he was Christ-like in his gentleness." With these words Frederick V. Holman caps the climax as he depicts the virtues of his hero: "Dr. John McLoughlin, the Father of Oregon" (Cleveland: Arthur H. Clark & Co.). Though Mr. Holman is of Presbyterian antecedents and himself strictly Protestant, he beseeches the powers at Rome to canonize McLoughlin, who was a good Catholic, at the earliest possible opportunity, that Oregon may have a proper patron saint. Tenderfeet from the effete East, picking their way through Oregon's historic path, can hardly be expected to adopt so enthusiastic an appreciation as this of the pioneer who laid the foundations; but McLoughlin was a fine type of manhood, and his personality has exercised throughout the entire course of that commonwealth a salutary influence. Low cunning, rapacity, indifference to humanity, have too often marked her politics. It is a great thing for the State that there has always been

for her the fine tradition of this character, thoroughly brave, human, and honest, to touch the consciences of her people when they have come short. This book is authoritative, based upon abundant documents, many printed in a full appendix; and although sometimes a bit too effusive, it is, on the whole, a fit presentment of a figure which should not be forgotten. McLoughlin, a Canadian, became, in 1824, chief agent of the Hudson's Bay Company in the region west of the Rocky Mountains. He established himself at Fort Vancouver, on the Columbia, in territory which Great Britain and the United States had agreed to hold in "joint occupancy," a *modus vivendi* until a fixed boundary could be determined. Though a subject of Great Britain, and strictly loyal to the great trading corporation he represented, he yet treated with marked kindness the immigrants coming overland from the United States. His fate was the usual fate of those who try in a dispute to please both sides. Though always well-meaning, he incurred the displeasure of his company on the one hand, and was looked upon askance by those whom he had befriended on the other. Cast out by his employers, stripped of his means by Americans who owed their lives to him, he died, in 1857, of a broken heart. Such reparation as can be made to a man after death has been made by Oregon to this early benefactor. His portrait (he was of towering stature and superb physique) hangs in the place of honor in her capitol. To what lengths the community he founded is disposed to go in paying tribute to his worth and services Mr. Holman's book makes plain.

A remarkable career is described by Henry Johnson in the "Life and Voyages of Joseph Wiggins, F.R.G.S." (E. P. Dutton & Co.). The son of a coachman and an apprenticed sailor boy at fourteen, he became one of the foremost mariners of his day and "worthy to be placed beside Hawkins and Frohisher." His one great aim in life was the opening of a commercial highway through the Arctic Seas to Siberia, and to attain this he devoted all his means and thirty strenuous years of peril and hardship. In the summer of 1874 he took a vessel from Scotland to the mouth of the Yenesei, the first explorer in modern times to demonstrate the navigability of the Kara Sea. Between this time and his death in 1905 he made nine more voyages to the river, besides crossing Siberia six times by sledge and tarantass. The story is largely told by extracts from his journals and letters, which impress one with the disinterestedness of the gallant sailor as well as with his indomitable pluck and amazing energy. Many interesting glimpses into the life of the men who are building up Siberia and developing its natural riches are given in the narrative. Their industry, wealth, and especially their interest in education is surprising. At Tomsk, for instance, Capt. Wiggins writes in January, 1888:

Yesterday we inspected the university—now nearly ready for students—given to the town by a wealthy merchant whose father was a nomad Samoyede. It is a vast building, standing in extensive grounds, and has botanical gardens, conservatories, lecture halls, and a library of 60,000 volumes.

It is a noteworthy fact that the efforts of the captain to strengthen the commercial

ties between Russia and Great Britain were better appreciated by the Russians than by his own countrymen. They conferred many honors on him, and the Czar, Alexander III., presented him with a silver service, but there was practically no official recognition by the English government of what he had accomplished. The volume contains an excellent index, a map, portraits, and pictures of scenes in Siberia, many of which, however, have no relation to the text.

The principal object of Sir Hubert Jerminham, in his tour around the world, described in "From West to East" (E. P. Dutton & Co.), was to see Japan "before it is wholly spoilt by success," and to stimulate the interest of the public "in the sons and daughters of the land of the Rising Sun." The greater part of the volume, therefore, is devoted to an account of his Japanese experiences. These included interviews with several noted men, among others Admiral Togo and Marquis Ito. The government gave him permission to go to Mukden and Port Arthur, the battles and siege of which places are described with much detail. A specimen of the humor of the people is given in this statement:

Kanaoka, the painter of animals, drew horses that were so life-like that a rope had to be attached to the picture at night to prevent the horses from rushing out into the gardens and damaging the shrubs; and rats that left their canvas on the appearance of a cat.

The remainder of the author's "fugitive notes," to use his own expression, concerning other countries and places, is not of much value. On the whole it is difficult to see the *raison d'être* of the book, except the pleasure which the author evidently had in writing it. It is attractive in appearance with some twenty-five illustrations and two maps of Port Arthur, showing its defences and the advance of the Japanese.

A volume recently issued by the Historical Manuscripts Commission of Great Britain, the third of the calendar of the manuscripts of the Marquis of Bath, preserved at Longleat, throws light on the diplomatic career of the poet Matthew Prior. Prior was secretary to the embassy and minister *ad interim* at The Hague, 1693-97; secretary to the embassy at the Congress of Ryswick, 1697; secretary to the embassy and minister *ad interim* at Paris, 1698-9; and during this period of political activity he carried on a wide correspondence with men in public affairs. Historically, the papers are not especially important, although they elucidate to a certain extent the inner history of the treaty of Ryswick and furnish material for a consecutive narrative of the negotiations from the first overtures of the French to the ratification of the treaty. They give, also, an insight into the life of James II. and the Jacobite exiles in Paris, and a few particulars regarding financial conditions in 1696 and the Partition treaties. Inasmuch as Prior was a commissioner of trade and plantations after 1700, it is somewhat to be wondered at that his letters contain nothing relating to America and the plantations. A report of the Board of Trade relative to trade with Russia, dated August, 1697, and not before printed, is the only important paper of its kind in the volume, and the

editors have acted wisely in calendaring it very fully. Prior, like many another Englishman of letters, found the secret of joining two things generally thought incompatible: poetry and business. The literary aspects of his correspondence stand out conspicuously; and his letters from Paris, which are the cream of the collection, abound in humor, caustic criticism and comment, persiflage, and vivid description. Prior loved to elaborate his views of Parisian society, and to retail the gossip and scandal of the hour. After 1700 the correspondence becomes more commonplace, as disappointment and need, impeachment and imprisonment clouded his career. The volume closes with the year 1721.

Commerce in war is subjected to greater ill-usage than one might be prepared to expect from the protection mutually afforded by combatants to private property on land. A vivid realization of the extent to which belligerents may still hinder the freedom of commerce will be gained by reading "Commerce in War," by L. A. Atherley-Jones, assisted by Hugh H. L. Bellot (pp. xxii, 654. D. Appleton & Co.). The author's purpose is "to provide a full exposition of the rules of International Law which govern the commercial relations of neutral and belligerent States." By thus limiting his scope, the author is able to fulfil his purpose in a most satisfactory manner, and without attempting to determine what the law should be, he sets forth in detail what the law is and how it has become such. The development is illustrated by citations of opinions of the text-writers, the provisions of treaties, and the decisions of courts. Contraband, blockade, continuous voyage, carriage of property at sea, visit, search, capture, condemnation, recapture, and rescue are the subjects which are traced from their origin to the most recent practice. Such an exposition cannot fail to prove useful—as the author hopes—to the lawyer, the ship-owner and shipper, to diplomatists and consuls; but it will also contribute to the advancement of the freedom of commerce in war.

A second volume completes the "Dictionary of Christ and the Gospels," edited by the Rev. James Hastings, with the assistance of the Rev. John A. Selbie and the Rev. John C. Lambert, and published in the same form as the well-known "Dictionary of the Bible," which also bears the name of Dr. Hastings (Charles Scribner's Sons). The plan of the work is good; articles are provided on all subjects connected with the criticism, history, and doctrine of the Gospel narratives. The contributors are exclusively British and American scholars; and a generous number of important titles have been assigned to students on this side of the water. The work is designed especially for preachers, for whom it unquestionably makes accessible many facts suitable for homiletic use. The extreme conservative point of view, however, noted in the first volume is maintained in the second. Scant space is accorded to the questions raised by the most recent criticism, and many of the articles indicate a manner of thought which the present age has outgrown. This dictionary is therefore likely to become more speedily out of date than its editor's earli-

er effort. Occasionally an article by the Rev. Ernest F. Scott or Prof. Benjamin W. Bacon sheds modern light on an important topic, and serves to show what this work might have been in the hands of less fearful spirits.

Prof. Kirsopp Lake, the successor of Van Manen in the University of Leiden, is the author of a careful examination of "The Historical Evidence for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ" (G. P. Putnam's Sons). The accounts in the four Gospels, the references in the Acts, and in the writings of Paul, are submitted to patient inquiry, and the endeavor is made to explain the origin of the divergent narratives, and arrive at the earliest tradition. Substantially, Professor Lake holds that the Marcan account represents the earliest belief of the church, and that the additions of the other Gospels are embellishments of the story, rather than independent traditions of value. He holds, however, that the lost conclusion of Mark recited at least an appearance to Peter in Galilee. The work as a whole is an able piece of historical criticism, conducted in a reverential spirit, and recognizing to the full the limits of historical investigation and the privileges of religious faith. The suggestion is made that the women who returned to the sepulchre in the early morning found the wrong grave, and that the speech of the young man to them was the prosaic statement, "He is not here: lo! there they have laid Him," pointing to a tomb still closed. The conjecture is ingenious, but is lacking in proof, and against it are the words, "He is risen," which are found in the earliest tradition as part of the young man's address to the women.

Modelled after the Protestant Religions-geschichtliche Volksbücher, edited by Prof. M. Schiele, the Catholics of Germany have now decided to issue a set of popular yet scientific discussions of religious, Biblical, and philosophical problems in booklet form, to be called *Biblische Zeitfragen*. Prof. J. Rikel, who holds the chair of Old Testament exegesis in Strassburg, is the general editor, and the Aschendorff Verlag, Munich, will print the series.

A new series bearing the general title *Die Verbrechensbewegung im östlichen Europa*, just begun in Munich, is a timely undertaking. So far only one volume has appeared, "Die Kriminalität der Balkanländer," by Dr. Arnold Wadler. This is a study based on statistical data.

An interesting collection of poetic appreciations of Jesus as the greatest and purest of men, irrespective of theology and dogma, forms "Die moderne Jesusdichtung: eine Anthologie," by Karl Röttger, who also adds an introduction. The book is published in Munich and Leipzig, by R. Piper & Co., as the sixteenth volume of the series known as *Die Fruchtschale*.

In the Report of the philosophico-historical Section of the Vienna Academy of Sciences, Prof. C. Wessely describes a number of recently found papyri of importance in throwing light on earlier church history. In the persecution of the Christians under Decius, circa 250 A. D., those who denied the faith were compelled not only to sacrifice to idols and eat sacrificial meat, but also in a formal document to denounce their faith. Hitherto only four formulas of this

kind were known to exist; two in Vienna, one in Berlin, and one in Oxford. Now the director of the Museum of Alexandria, Dr. F. Breccia, has discovered in the recent papyrus additions to that collection a new and more complete formula.

Tacitus states in his *Germania* (xii.) that according to old German law and usage certain crimes were punished by burying the perpetrators alive in a swamp or marshy moor, and cases of this kind are mentioned in ancient German and Scandinavian poems. In the *Gudrunlay* of the older Edda of Sámund Sigfusson, for example, Gudrun is falsely accused of infidelity to her husband King Atli (Attila), and her maid Herkia, who originated and circulated this charge, is condemned to be thrown into a foul morass. The recently published twenty-fourth Report of the Museum *Vaterländischer Altertumer* connected with the University of Kiel contains a valuable paper on "Germanische Moorleichenfunde" by Fräulein Johanna Mestorf, professor in the university, and since 1873 director of the Museum. She describes fifty-two bodies found in German moors, some of them entirely naked, with their clothes lying near them in a bundle, and others fully dressed and often richly attired and adorned with valuable jewels. On the body of one woman were bracelets, a necklace of amber pearls, and elegant shoes adorned with fine leather work. These articles of clothing and ornaments show that the severe penalty was inflicted on wealthy persons at a comparatively late period, since such costumes were unknown to the primitive Germans. From the position of the bodies it is evident that they were thrown headforemost into the swamp. Occasionally the executioner of the sentence seems to have mercifully fractured the skull or thrust a pointed weapon into the heart before consigning the body to its foul doom.

The Verein der Buchhändler of Leipzig has started a movement against the sensationalism that is threatening modern German literature. A document has been issued urging united action against the *Zehnpfennighefte* which in editions of tens of thousands, dealing with crime and sexual matters, are corrupting the public taste.

Major Paul Balagny of the French army gives us the fifth volume of his elaborate work "Campagne de l'Empereur Napoléon en Espagne" (Paris: Berger-Lévrault). In this, as in the preceding volumes, the author's purpose is to let the French official documents speak for themselves. Whereas Napier's classic is a continuous work, of no apparent documentation, M. Balagny's is really a classification of reports, of the correspondence of Napoleon, his marshals, and his generals, with just so much letterpress, so to say, by the author, as to keep the reader from losing his way. Adequate maps and sketches are furnished, for the author has personally followed the various routes of the French troops and visited the main battlefields. This work constitutes a serious contribution to military and even to general history.

René Wallier, continuing the annual series of many years signed A. Daniel, expounds from the moderate Radical point of view the year 1907 in French politics, in "Le 20ème siècle politique."

E. Amélineau begins the publication of his "Prolégomènes de la religion égyptienne," by a volume on the mythology of Egypt; the author is lecturer on the subject at the *École des Hautes Études*, and will be remembered for his excavations at Abydos.

That vast international symposium of authors and authorities, known and unknown, carried out by the *Mercure de France* on "La Question religieuse," now appears in a volume edited by Frédéric Charpin. It is many men of many minds asking whether God, if there be a God, will save our soul, if we have a soul.

J. Izart has compiled a compact and most useful "Dictionnaire et vocabulaire de l'automobile" (Paris: H. Dunod et E. Pinat), in four languages, French, German, English, and Italian. Of the 335 pages, 193 are devoted to the vocabulary proper, the remainder being a practical manual of international touring. The entries are French, with equivalents in the other languages; and each entry is accompanied by a brief but sufficient description of the part, etc., with clear diagrams where complexity makes it necessary. A continuous alphabetical index in English, German, and Italian completes the work. To Americans contemplating a motor trip abroad the work should prove indispensable.

Statistics of gifts to libraries in the United States during the year 1907, as compiled by the secretary of the American Library Association, show an aggregate of \$4,584,859, of which \$1,459,350 was contributed by Mr. Carnegie, and \$3,125,509 by other persons. For buildings \$3,386,600 was given, for endowments \$1,098,000, and for undesignated purposes \$99,759. New York State heads the list in the number of gifts reported.

In the eighth annual report of the New Jersey Library Commission special attention is called to the rapid growth, both in the supply and in the use of travelling libraries, during the three years that the Commission has had charge of them. In 1904 there were but twelve such libraries in the State system; the number now in use is 153.

The eleventh Conference for Education in the South will be held at Memphis, April 22 to 24. The programme will include addresses by representative speakers on "The Progress of Arkansas," "The Training of the Southern Teacher," "The Methods of an Educational Campaign," "Industrial Education," "The Schools and the Forests," "The Christian South and Negro Education," "More Efficient School Supervision," and "Business Leadership in Educational Progress." There will be an "open forum" on the subject of "Compulsory Attendance," at which Dr. B. J. Baldwin, president of the Board of Education of Montgomery, Ala., will preside. The discussion will be opened by Prof. W. H. Heck of the University of Virginia. There will also be addresses by Southern women on the service which is being rendered to the cause of popular education by the school improvement organizations of the several States of the South. The subject of the "Higher Education of Women" will also receive attention.

The International Congress for philosophy, which was organized in Paris in 1900, and which held its second meeting

in Geneva in 1904, will meet in Heidelberg beginning August 31.

Charles Cuthbert Hall, president of the Union Theological Seminary since 1897, died in this city March 25. Born here in 1852, he was graduated from Williams, studied at the Union Seminary, and also in London and Edinburgh, and held pastorates in Newburgh, N. Y., and Brooklyn. Among his books are "Christian Belief Interpreted by Christian Experience" (1905), "Redeemed Life after Death" (1905), "Universal Elements of the Christian Religion" (1905), "Christ and the Human Race" (1906), and "The Witness of the Oriental Consciousness to Jesus Christ" (1907).

Truman Jay Backus, president of Packer Collegiate Institute, Brooklyn, since 1883, died March 24. He was born in Milan, N. Y., in 1842 was graduated from the University of Rochester, and was for some years professor of rhetoric and English literature at Vassar. Among his books are "Great English Writers," "Outlines of English Literature," and a revision of Shaw's "History of English Literature."

On the 15th of last month Walter Scott's "Kitty" of the "Journal" died at Ealing. She was born in 1815, the fifth child of James Skene of Rubislaw, the poet's lifelong friend. In 1841 she married John Foster Grierson, Queen's printer for Ireland, at Athens, whither her father had gone for his health. She saw much of Scott when she was a girl, and in her old age was fond of recalling those days, but she was averse to publishing her reminiscences.

The death of Eduard Zeller, at the great age of ninety-four, removes one of the patriarchs of German scholarship. Professor Zeller was educated at Tübingen and Berlin, and in 1840 became *Privatdozent* at the former university. Seven years later he was appointed professor of theology at Berne; from here he was transferred to Marburg in 1849, Heidelberg in 1862, and Berlin in 1872. He continued his active teaching until 1895. As a student at Berlin he had come under the influence of Hegel, and in his first teaching years he was one of the founders of the *Theologische Jahrbücher*, which, along with the writings of Christian Baur and David Strauss, introduced into religious study the Hegelian conception of development. From his work in the origins of Christianity he was led to Greek philosophy, and his great work, mainly composed between the years 1844 and 1852, was "Die Philosophie der Griechen in ihrer geschichtlichen Entwicklung." This was afterwards much revised and enlarged, the latest edition bearing the date 1902. It has been translated into English and other languages, and is universally acknowledged as the leading book on the subject. Among his other works are "The History of the Christian Church" (1847), "The Theological System of Zwingli" (1853), "The Acts of the Apostles: Their Contents and Origin" (1854), "State and Church" (1873), "Platonic Studies" (1839), "Plato's Symposium," translation and a commentary (1857), "Outline of the History of Greek Philosophy," first published in 1833, and "History of German Philosophy since Leibnitz" (1873). He received abundant honors in Germany, and was a member of many learned societies. He belonged to a race of scholars who have pretty well passed

away, their place being taken by syndicated writers, so to speak.

Dr. Richard Kaufmann, for many years professor of political economy at the Technical Academy at Charlottenburg, has died at the age of fifty-eight. He wrote a number of books, including: "Finanzen Frankreichs," "Verteilung der Steuerlasten in Preussen," "Die Eisenbahnpolitik Frankreichs," "Die Kommunalfinanz."

STUDIES IN BIBLICAL LITERATURE.

The Canon and Text of the New Testament.

By Caspar René Gregory. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. \$2.50 net.

The Leipzig professor's "Prolegomena" and his (as yet unfinished), "Text Kritik des Neuen Testaments" are intended mainly for scholars, while the present volume, covering both Canon and Text, has in mind chiefly the lay reader. The book is popular in the best sense of the term, being at once readable and accurate. There are no footnotes to distract attention, no bibliographical references. The reader, unless a specialist, would never know from this volume that Harnack, Zahn, and Westcott had written on the Canon, and Kenyon, Nestle, and Lake on the Text. Gregory is content to give his own opinion; and in this method there are obvious advantages. The style is fascinating, in spite of occasional infelicities. The author's irrelevant parentheses while bordering at times on the smart, are never offensive: "The textual critic must know all about book-making, not for races but for literature" (p. 318). We are requested to "quit the pernicious habit of calling the Lord's Day by the Jewish name for Saturday" (p. 50).

Gregory's theory as to the rise of the New Testament is based upon the habit of public worship among the early Christians. Two parts of the service are significant: one in which God speaks to men, the Old Testament lessons; the other, in which man speaks to men, the sermon, address, the recounting of what Jesus said and did, and, later on, the reading of the letters of Paul and of the Gospels. Before the time of Irenæus, it turns out that the four Gospels and the letters of Paul had passed over from the second to the first class, were put, that is, on a par with the Old Testament, while other books still remained in the second class. Though Marcion gives the first indication of a "clear-cut, definitely rounded off New Testament," nevertheless his "books were a selection from the books of the church" in accordance with his own theological interest. But, up to the time of Irenæus, there is no sign "of anything like an official declaration as to the canonicity of any one book or of a number of the books of the New Testament" (p. 217). From Irenæus on, the problem is mainly that of the classification of the Catholic Epistles in part, Hebrews, Revelation, Hermas, etc., whether they are to be assigned to the first or second class. Athanasius indicates the Alexandrian view in putting into the normative class what we know in the King James version as the New Testament, and in leaving Hermas and others in the second place. Jerome and Augustine fix a similar list for Western orthodoxy. But "Augustine could not point to an au-

thoritative deliverance of the whole church touching the books of Scripture" (p. 287). In spite of Trent and Westminster, "there was never an authoritative, generally declared and generally received canon" (p. 290). Professor Gregory adds:

The British and Foreign Bible Society and the Roman College for Propagating the Faith are gradually spreading abroad our New Testament. But neither the one nor the other is a General Council authorized to settle the canon (p. 292).

The point at which the reader prays for more light is the point at which Paul and the Gospels slip from the second to the first class, from "man to men" to "God to men." The reader wonders if Marcion did not have more to do with this significant transition than Gregory (pp. 81, 82) admits.

Turning to the Text, we find ourselves in the company of an expert who writes both with knowledge and with love of his subject. He passes in review papyrus, parchment, Greek manuscripts, both large and small letter, lesson books, translations, church writers, printed editions, externals of the Text, and, finally, the most difficult and the most important section, "Early History of the Text." Here Gregory stands in close and admitted agreement with Westcott and Hort. His view, stated briefly, is this: In the first century, Gregory assumes, the Christian writings were, with the exception of Revelation, carefully copied. Traces of this type of text, boldly called the Original Text, are to be discovered where intentional changes were not wont to be made, that is to say, in more prosaic and ignorant circles. A second type of text, commonly known as Western, may also have originated in the first century, and was certainly widespread almost everywhere in the second century. This text, named Re-Wrought by Gregory, is "not a clear-cut revision or correction of the former text, but a series of varying experiences of the earlier text in various places" (p. 488). Its value lies not in itself, but in its witness to the original text. A third type of text has its origin with scholars at Antioch, who "filed the text off to give it as nearly as possible the smooth surface of polite diction" (p. 493). This type of text Gregory aptly calls Polished. On the basis of these three types of text, each of which is simple, that is, not conflate ("single-eyed" is Gregory's word), a revision was made at Antioch which aimed at producing a full, untroubled, and polished text. In this revision Lucian may have had a hand. Then finally, when Christianity had become authoritative under Constantine, a second Syrian revision emerged, the official and the worst possible text, a text which remained essentially unchanged until modern scholarship started on its hunt after the original text.

Before closing his discussion, Gregory, as Hort had done before him, points out the fact that modern textual criticism has given the world a text of the New Testament which is secure. Important variations might fill "a half a page or fifteen or sixteen small lines." Definitely spurious passages are John vii, 53-viii, 11, Mark xvi, 9-20, and First John v, 7-8. Probably spurious are Matthew xvi, 2-3, Luke xxii, 43-44, and John v, 3-4. It is curious, as Gregory notes, that the passage in First

John, commonly used as a proof text for the doctrine of the Trinity, has been shown by a Roman Catholic scholar to have originated with Priscillian, a heretic who did not hold the doctrine of the Trinity.

In the treatment of the text, the reader would have been obliged to Dr. Gregory, had he said more in detail in regard to a growing tendency to estimate the Western text as valuable in itself. What is said (pp. 490, 505 ff.) is scarcely adequate even in a book of this character. Furthermore, even if Von Soden has not read, or at least appreciated, Tischendorf and Westcott and Hort, even if he is all wrong in his method, still as a matter of record, something should have been said about Von Soden's new nomenclature. In a second edition, which surely will be demanded shortly, the spelling of Irenæus (p. 350) should be conformed to the prevailing usage in the book; a decision should be made between St. Catharine (p. 329) and St. Catherine (p. 298); and the dittography (p. 488, l. 27) should be remedied. Finally, let us thank the editor, Dr. Charles A. Briggs, for putting such an eminently readable and trustworthy volume into his International Theological Library.

Old Testament and Semitic Studies in Memory of William Rainey Harper. Edited by Robert Francis Harper, Francis Brown, and George F. Moore. University of Chicago Press. 2 vols. \$10.

This handsomely printed and worthy memorial contains twenty-six articles by the leading Old Testament and Oriental scholars of America. The names of the contributors, connected with fifteen of the leading institutions of learning in this country, are in themselves an indication not only of the high grade of scholarly attainment, but of the recognition now given to Semitic studies—a recognition largely due to the activity of the late President Harper. His position as president of the University of Chicago during the last years of his life made him so prominent as an administrator and educator as to overshadow in the public mind his earlier work as an inspiring teacher of Hebrew, first in the Baptist Union Theological Seminary, Chicago, and then at Yale. Through summer schools, at first independently conducted and afterwards connected with the Chautauqua movement, many persons were attracted to the study of Hebrew and of the Old and New Testaments who would not have been reached in any other way. As the editor of three periodicals devoted to Semitic philology, to Bible studies, and to theology in general, he printed a large number of important contributions. His own original investigations, though restricted by his later duties, were considerable; and shortly before his death he published what is regarded as the standard modern commentary on the books of Amos and Hosea.

As an introduction, Professor Brown of the Union Theological Seminary furnishes a sketch of the life of President Harper, which is, at the same time, a contribution to the history of Semitic studies in the United States. Of the various papers, it is possible to refer to only a few, which illustrate the scope of these volumes. Thirteen of the papers deal with Old Testament themes; and those of Profs. C. H.

Toy and Moore of Harvard, Prof. Paul Haupt of Johns Hopkins, and Prof. C. C. Torrey of Yale deserve special mention. Professor Toy discusses "Some Conceptions of the Old Testament Psalter." The subjects specifically treated are the attitude towards sacrifices, the conception of law and of the government of the world, and the view taken of the ancient myths and legends, and of foreign deities. In regard to sacrifice, Professor Toy calls attention to the varying attitude in the Psalter: some psalms view sacrifices with favor, while others manifest more or less opposition. Professor Toy's footnotes are full of interesting suggestions, and contain many novel views which it is to be hoped he will develop in greater detail. Professor Moore, in his "Notes on the Name Jahweh," fairly disposes of the current belief that the false pronunciation "Jehovah" does not date farther back than the year 1520. The article, which is a model of scientific accuracy and learning, traces the use of "Jehovah" to the year 1278. Equally important is the proof that the pronunciation "Jahweh," now commonly accepted by scholars (though there is now a tendency to prefer "Jahwah") was propounded as early as the sixteenth century. The most elaborate contribution is by Professor Haupt, who furnishes a revised Hebrew text of Esther. The number of actual textual changes is not large, but there are many glosses and scribal expansions which Professor Haupt excludes from the text proper, and places at the bottom of the page. Most of these will probably be accepted by critics, but in regard to some of them opinions will differ. Professor Haupt is particularly happy in his new interpretations. A second paper on Esther is contributed by Professor Lewis B. Paton of Hartford Theological Seminary, who has put together the complete critical apparatus for the study of the text derived from the various ancient versions, Greek, Latin, Aramaic, and Syriac. Of a similar highly technical character is Prof. C. C. Torrey's study of the text of Chronicles, Ezra, and Nehemiah. These two articles reach the high-water mark of exacting scholarship.

Of the Assyriological articles, that of Prof. George A. Barton of Bryn Mawr on "The Origin of Some Cuneiform Signs" calls for a word of comment because of the important suggestion that what have hitherto been taken as methods adopted by Babylonian scribes for giving a "heightened" or "potentialized" meaning to a certain sign are merely variant forms of one and the same sign. Professor Barton's method also marks an improvement over previous attempts to classify the cuneiform syllabary into certain groups. His twelve classes, covering human and animal forms, parts of the human body, and of animals, birds, fishes, trees, plants, water, canals, houses and parts of houses, implements and vessels, articles of apparel, and fire, are valuable indications of the cultural stage and sociological status of the inventors of this old Babylonian form of writing. The article embodies some of the more general results of an investigation of the theme which will be fully set forth in a larger work on which Prof. Barton is now engaged. Prof. Morris Jastrow, jr., of the University of Pennsylvania furnishes a new interpretation of an omen text, which he shows was prepared for the temple schools, in order to illustrate

the method followed in the interpretation of signs derived from the inspection of the livers of sheep as a means of divining the future. Attached to the article is a chart giving the Babylonian terms for the various parts of the liver and of phenomena observed on the liver. Two articles on Babylonian seal cylinders, by Dr. William H. Ward of New York and Prof. I. M. Price of the University of Chicago, illustrate the value of these objects for the history and religion of Babylonia and Assyria; Prof. J. D. Prince of Columbia gives a first translation of a most difficult Sumerian text. The general sense of the text has been determined by him, but many of the details must still be regarded as doubtful. An exceedingly valuable article by Prof. A. T. Clay of the University of Pennsylvania, in his study of fifty Aramaic endorsements on cuneiform tablets of the Persian period. Professor Clay has succeeded in satisfactorily deciphering the most of those badly preserved endorsements. The philological and epigraphical results are important.

Prof. R. J. H. Gottheil of Columbia contributes an elaborate study of the relationship of Jews and Christians to Moslems in Egypt, utilizing as a new source an important document which he found in Cairo and which illustrates the position occupied by the Jewish sect of the Karaites in Egypt in the middle of the ninth century. The text and translation of the document are added to the article.

CURRENT FICTION.

Fennel and Rue. By W. D. Howells. New York: Harper & Bros.

Mr. Howells's new story has at least two refreshing elements—it presents a novel situation, and instead of dealing with unpleasant immoralities, it concerns itself with excessive morality. It is, in short, the history of a virulent case of "New England conscience" seated in a Southern breast. Verrian is the young author of a popular serial story running in a New York periodical. Two young women in a country town for a joke write him a letter purporting to come from a girl who is a victim of a rapid and fatal disease, and who begs Verrian to tell her the conclusion in advance of its publication. Verrian takes the matter, as he does himself, seriously; the editor of the periodical asks the writer of the letter for her credentials, the girls are frightened and confess their guilt by letter; Verrian is furious, and writes so severe a reply that Miss Shirley, a Southern girl, the real writer of the first letter, which was signed by her companion's name, longs for death and has brain fever. Somewhat later Verrian goes to a house-party, at which he proceeds to fall in love with Miss Shirley, who is acting as hired entertainer. An incident which reminds her of the irreparable evil of an untruth, causes her to faint, and eventually leads her to confess to Verrian that she was the perpetrator of the practical joke. Verrian is ready to forgive her, they separate, and do not meet again until Miss Shirley has become engaged to another man, to whom she has not dared confide the frightful secret of the letter. In Verrian's presence she finally confesses her guilt. Her fiancé thereupon refuses to recognize Verrian, and strides away with

Miss Shirley. Verrian is left in anguish; while the reader feels perilously near to the mock-heroic, and to a caricature of the remorseful Virgil in Purgatory:

O noble, conscience and without a stain
How sharp a sting is trivial fault to thee!

Mr. Howells has succeeded admirably in depicting the excesses to which continual brooding over a trifle may lead those who have no sense of humor. The slender plot is well developed, though it is embedded in a good many pages of banal, but exceedingly life-like conversation, uttered by desperately uninteresting and real people.

The Soul of a Priest. By the Duke Littia. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co.

Fogazzaro has spoiled us for this too avowedly psychological novel, which deals with the ever-interesting subject of anti-clericalism in Italy. The hero, Renato Rinaldi, a young Milanese nobleman, after an education received in a monastery school, shrinking from the corruptions of the world, enters the Church. He finds the Roman Catholic priesthood no less corrupt than society, experiences painful disillusion, and, after stormy struggles, leaves the church in order to devote his life to "the advancement of Truth." The bitter and even petulant spirit in which the book is written detracts from its value as a contribution to anti-clerical literature. It almost laughably recalls "From St. Francis to Dante," in which Mr. Coulton "exposes" the Middle Ages by collecting from Fra Salimbene the scandalous passages which he gloats over as characteristic of the age. The Duke Littia scathes the evils of the Church one after another, not forgetting to attack Our Lady of Lourdes, and to give a covert dig at St. Catherine. Renato is the only pure-minded character within the pale of the Church, and even his early devotion to the ecclesiastical life is attributed to his love of ritual, due in some mysterious way to an element of sensuality inherited from his immoral parents; on the other hand, the intellectual problems that force themselves upon the true Modernist receive scant notice. The author further weakens his case by painting the world in as black colors as the Church; both are equally "clotted by contagion," and the picture of neither gains force by contrast. The indignation of the author against Church and society has prevented him from producing an artistic psychological study, and in the development of Renato's character there is an entire lack of those delicate touches that make such work convincing.

The narrative, however, in spite of some inconsistencies and its lack of incident, has a certain unity of effect and holds the attention throughout. This is the first novel that the Duke has written in English, of which he has an excellent command, although he occasionally betrays his foreign origin, as for instance, when he speaks of "a tepid October day," and of "serving Mass."

Seraphica. By Justin Huntly McCarthy. New York: Harper & Bros.

The manifest destiny of this story is to be put upon the stage, for which it has a thousand qualifications. To begin with, the period is nothing, if not stageable, being the days of the Regency of Philip of Orleans, when the reaction from Madame de

Maintenon's régime was changing the French Court to a mere house of mirth. For figures, besides the Regent, the King, the painter Watteau, and Madame de Phalaris, there is a high-born pair who are both fleeing from the betrothal their elders desire; a princeling he, a duchess she, who rides away in cavalier's guise. And being all the daughters of her father's house and all the brothers, too, she has had a boy's upbringing and can ride, shoot, and fence with the best. "A merry devil in petticoats" was the name she earned at home. Abroad, in man's attire, or acting Columbine at Versailles in Watteau's Comedy of Masks, she becomes the heroine of a "memorable prank," part of "a few pages plucked from the golden book of the Regency," a figure in a demi-semi-historic group of that strange court "with its florid Regent, its little King, its possession of shameless favorites, and graceless gentlemen."

Mr. McCarthy has made an animated and effectively costumed story, ripe for a fall from the bookshelf to the footlights. Some of the eighteenth century history, atmosphere, and words (such as "cautalous" and "mirific") will no doubt remain behind upon that shelf, but there is plenty of scenic effect to survive the fall.

Mothers in Israel. By J. S. Fletcher. New York: Moffat, Yard & Co.

The sub-title of this book is "A Study in Rustic Amenities," viz.: lying, slander, evil-speaking, and malice. "It is not too much to say that they form an Atmosphere. Nor can one truthfully say less than that Atmosphere is chiefly created by Woman." The scene of this particular exposition is a Yorkshire village, where the dislike and suspicion of a newcomer are rooted, according to our author, in a survival of the old tribal feeling. The study is made with the utmost seriousness of intention, and the utmost solemnity of belief. The preface in particular holds shuddering presage of calamity to come. One recalls Edna Lyall's "Autobiography of a Slander," which should be in every village and other library, and wonders if this is to be a companion volume. But here the story in its naive crudity is an anti-climax to the formidable preface. There are not, however, wanting graphic touches of village landscape and figures, and if some readers feel cheated out of tragedy, others will take comfort in comedy, for the curtain falls on backbiters thoroughly frustrated, if not in the least reformed.

The Lost Goddess. By Edward Barron. New York: Henry Holt & Co.

This is the story of a party of gay and idle New Yorkers, who sail on an expedition to the Upper Amazon to rescue a stolen American maiden from the hands of the savage Tigrané, who worship her as the goddess of their tribe. Granted this *donnée*, and the fact that the heroine, one of the rescue party, is a Maya princess, adopted in early childhood by a New Yorker, the sequence of events is not too fantastic. Intrigue, revenge, bloodshed, murder; and abduction follow one another in rapid succession, and so far as movement and action are concerned, the story satisfies the requirements of a tale of adventure.

But it calls forth a sigh for "the chronicle of wasted time," for the glamour of Celtic romance, where the preposterous never fails to charm, the impossible is natural, and mystery is the world in which the reader moves without a question. The true spirit of romance, rare at best in the fiction of to-day, is sadly lacking in Mr. Barron's book, which in its execution is not without merit.

Love's Logic and Other Stories. By Anthony Hope. New York: The McClure Co.

No one who has read "The Prisoner of Zenda" and "The Dolly Dialogues" can resist the temptation to take up a book by Mr. Hawkins, in the hope that he may have matched or surpassed those earlier successes. Too often the result has been disappointment—as it is in this case. The volume is made up of short stories, good enough for magazines, but distinctly not worth publication in permanent form. "Love's Logic" is a scrap of very thin dialogue, wisely buried in the middle of the book. The four best tales are "Mrs. Thistleton's Princess," "The Necessary Resources," "Miss Gladwin's Chance," and "The Prince Consort"; the other eleven are easy to read, because they are short; and easier to forget, because they are without distinction. The book is carelessly proof-read and printed.

Letters of Dr. John Brown. with Letters from Ruskin, Thackeray, and Others. Edited by His Son and D. W. Forrest, with biographical introductions by Elizabeth T. McLaren. New York: The Macmillan Co.

Almost every collection of Letters should be weeded. A real service would be done to literature by any judicious man who would undertake the task of reconstructing the "Life and Correspondence" of some half-dozen of our eminent men and omitting what is redundant.

These words, from a letter from Sir Henry Taylor to Dr. Brown, were not, we regret to say, always present in the minds of the editors of this volume. The seventy-five pages of letters addressed to Dr. Brown are, on the whole, more interesting than his own output, because they have been more carefully selected. Many of Dr. Brown's letters are filled with detail that is of significance chiefly to the Edinburgh circle in which he moved; and the inclusion of this matter is entirely proper, for the book is primarily intended for the hundreds who knew him and loved him in his own home. But there is a good deal—brief and commonplace descriptions of travel and other odds and ends of routine—which can hardly appeal to any one outside the family. The American reader will lose interest unless he skips freely.

Of the letters, from Dr. Brown's correspondents, those of Thackeray and Ruskin are the most entertaining. Our own Dr. Holmes and Mark Twain appear briefly but creditably, and Lady Trevelyan gives a memorable description of Turner in his "wonderful old house".

On faded walls, hardly weather-tight, and among bits of old furniture thick with dust like a place that had been forsaken for years, were those brilliant pictures all glowing with sunshine and color—glittering lagunes of Venice, foaming English seas, and fairy sunsets—all shining out of the

dirt and neglect, and standing in rows one behind another, as if they were endless, the great Carthage at one end of the room and the glorious old Téméraire lighting up another corner, and Turner himself careless and kind and queer to look upon, with a certain pathos under his humor, that we could hardly miss.

Thackeray is, as in his letters printed elsewhere, intimate and delightful, with many touches, however, of weariness and regret. He tells us that the "bore and humiliation of delivering these stale old lectures is growing intolerable." And again, of the vanishing pleasures of youth: "At 47 Venus may rise from the sea, and I for one should hardly put on my spectacles to have a look." Ruskin, on the other hand, shows his eager, reforming bent, and rails at the stupidity of a world which is indifferent to his proclamation of eternal truth: "The undintable caoutchouc of which most people's heads are made is too much for me." To Ruskin the political economists are the lowest of God's creatures. The tone of mind which produced "Ricardo's chapter on Rent and Adam Smith's eighth chapter on the wages of labor" Ruskin classes with "Cretinism, Cholera, and other inexplicabilities of human disease." In another letter this "so-called science" is the "most cretinous, speechless, paralysing plague that has yet touched the brains of mankind." This denunciation, Ruskin assures Dr. Brown, "is the cool, resolute result of ten years' thought and sight. I write it as coolly as I should a statement respecting the square of the hypotenuse."

In Dr. Brown's own letters some of the best, and at times most astonishing, passages contain his literary judgments. He read omnivorously. Among the poets he seems to have reckoned Wordsworth as his favorite, despite Wordsworth's lack of humor. Browning, too, was "a true and great poet, more of both than Tennyson is, by a great way." Of the novelists he liked Thackeray and Scott the most; and to the very end he seems always to have found in their books fresh pleasure. To Stevenson's first ventures in literature he extended a warm welcome, describing "Travels with a Donkey" as "true genius, a new liquor, fresh and aromatic." Of Dickens the novelist, also "a genius in the true sense," he was tolerant; but Dickens the man, with his "intense, adamant egotism," repelled even Dr. Brown's charitable nature. Fielding he could enjoy, though he found "Tom Jones" "coarse and rough," but for George Eliot he had no sympathy. Half a dozen times he breaks out against "the somewhat disgusting praise of the naughtiness, strong-headed Mrs. George," "that taint of sensuality, or rather of sexuality, which was so offensive in 'The Mill on the Floss,'" and "that unexpected, gratuitous nastiness which makes you uncomfortable." In spite of Dr. Brown's affection for Ruskin, he admits that "his arrogance is more offensive than ever"; and in spite of an admiration for Matthew Arnold's "sinewy delightful style," he feels that "the great Matthew looks at the universe—and for that part at God—through an eyeglass, one eye shut, and a supreme air."

Among American authors, Dr. Brown places Lowell first, "with more of the light of common day, more naturalness in thought and word," than Tennyson and Browning, and "no want of depth or ten-

derness, with humor of the stronger and rarest flavor." "Whittier comes nearest him; Longfellow is a sort of male Mrs. Hemans." President Eliot he met at dinner in 1874, and found "a delightful man." From another letter, written in the same year, we take this sentence:

I saw a sweet young widow of a nephew of Lowell, who (the nephew) was killed in the war, a very sweet, modest, and blooming (rare among them) woman.

But the chief attraction of the book, after all, is the picture we get of the author of "Rab and His Friends" and "Horæ Subsecivæ." Even the detail that seems superfluous may help to complete the portrait of one of the best beloved of English writers. His singular power of attaching to himself both men and animals is evident here as in his formal writings and his daily life. Bred a strict Calvinist, with a long line of clerical ancestors, he was nevertheless too kind and genial to "hold the doctrine of eternal punishments"; on that point he was "content to remain in doubt." But the outlines of his character are familiar to all our readers. We will simply quote from one of his earliest letters a sentence that shows how soon his generous nature began to take its own way toward perfection:

What a blessing it is to be able to enjoy these innocent plain things—a bit of green earth, of the sky, a flower, a child's eye twinkling from under the long eyelashes, these are the common things which I would not give up for the treasures of silver and gold.

A Royal Tragedy. By Chedomille Mijatovich. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co. \$2.50 net.

The author of this volume, formerly Servian Minister at the Court of St. James and at Constantinople, was connected for more than thirty years with the Obrenovich dynasty, was private secretary to King Milan, and a Cabinet Minister under both Milan and Alexander. More than once he tried to dissuade first the father and later the son from the rash *coups d'état* that were the policy of both, and that mark the several steps in the decline of the Obrenoviches. But the dynasty was not to be saved by good advice; and a Greek would have seen in the two last kings of the house men plainly visited by the gods with the madness that hurries the victim to his violent end. They belonged to one of those families to which dreadful things happen. Only five Obrenoviches ruled over Servia, and all save the second owed their downfall to women. Milosh, the founder of the dynasty, who created the Servian Principality in the first quarter of the nineteenth century, was exiled through his wife's resentment at his numerous infidelities. Michael III. was murdered in Belgrade in 1868, in the presence of the woman for whose sake he was about to divorce his wife. Milan's quarrels with Nathalie embittered the childhood of Alexander, and alienated the Servians from the dynasty; while his premature abdication is supposed to have been due to the persuasion of his mistress, Arthemise Christich, always suspected to have been a secret agent of Russia. How Draga Mashin wrecked the fortunes of the last Obrenovich is well known, though M. Mijatovich adds many details and unravels the thread of many an in-

trigue hitherto unknown to the general public.

M. Mijatovich is a Russophobe, and belongs to the party that prefers the influence of Austria for a state that cannot hope to stand free of some form of protectorate. His book is an open attack on Russian perfidy. Milan, the Austrophil, had dared in 1882 to turn his back on Russia and make a convention with Austria-Hungary. From that date, according to Mijatovich, every foolish action of Milan or Alexander was secretly inspired by Russia working for the fall of the dynasty. We are to believe that the marriage with Draga which shocked even ex-King Milan, and alienated all patriotic Servians, was planned by Russia. But whatever the facts, the credulity of the reader will be taxed by the sweeping and sometimes unsupported assertions of the author. Take, for example, this statement:

In 1897 the Russian minister to Bavaria, Mr. Isvolsky, came specially from Munich to Meran on some secret mission to King Alexander, and spent there several days in company of the young King and his mistress. I daresay, although I have no undoubted proof, that on that occasion Draga placed herself unreservedly at the disposal of the Russian government, to achieve the special objects of the Russian policy in Servia (p. 70).

At the critical moment when Alexander's friends were trying to dissuade him from his fatal marriage, the Czar not only sent his formal congratulations to the pair, but accepted the function of "Koom," or chief sponsor, for their wedding. Mijatovich goes so far as to assert that M. Tcharikoff, the Russian minister, at the time of the assassination of the King and Queen, "was actually at one of his windows, watching, no doubt in great agitation, the development of the tragedy of which he was confidentially informed three or four days before" (p. 203). "No doubt in great agitation" is hardly the stuff of which accurate history is made.

No one can read the story of Alexander and Draga as related here without profound pity for both. For the three miserable years of their reign they were always acutely conscious of their unpopularity, knew that they were the object of numerous plots against which they had no such protection as a Russian Czar can secure, and towards the last never dared to leave the palace. In those two last hours, when they hid in a secret closet listening to the shouts of the infuriated officers who were searching for them, they expiated all their follies. The details given here of their last moments are far more horrible than anything that was published in the newspapers. One is relieved to read in the manifesto of the Regicides, which is printed as an appendix, that the assassins themselves acknowledge that their methods were "very regrettable and perhaps shameful."

In his "Intentions," Oscar Wilde declares:

Literature always anticipates life. It does not copy it, but moulds it to its purpose. We are merely carrying out, with footnotes and unnecessary additions, the whim or fancy or creative vision of a great novelist. . . . A great artist invents a type and Life tries to copy it, to reproduce it in popular form, like an enterprising publisher.

What an example of this tendency is the tragedy related by Mijatovich! Every es-

sential detail of the events that led up to the last act performed by Alexander and Draga was forestalled by Daudet in "Les Rois en Exil." One sometimes hears it said that Daudet's hero, Christian d'Ill-lyrie, must have been drawn from ex-King Milan. Yet Daudet published his novel in 1879, when Alexander was only two years old, when Milan and Nathalie were still the popular rulers of Servia, before the days of their unseemly quarrels, and when there had been no hint of either exile or abdication. Ten years later, Milan, like Christian, under the influence of his mistress, abdicated in favor of "Sasha," as Alexander was always called, the silent, weak-sighted child of twelve, the counterpart of Daudet's little Count Zara. The scene of Milan's abdication as described by Mijatovich is an echo of Daudet's account, written ten years earlier, of the abdication of Christian. "Puis le baise-main commençait. Christian II. ouvrait la marche, et s'acquittant de cette chose difficile, l'hommage d'un père à son enfant, baisait le bout des doigts frères." So (p. 29) Milan kneels to pronounce the oath of fidelity to his son.

Not the least interesting part of the book is the apologia of the Regicides, which gives the other side of the picture, the case of the adherents of the Karagevich dynasty and of the Russophiles. Not that Mijatovich ignores the grievances of the Servians against the unconstitutional policy of the Obrenoviches, but a strong personal attachment to ex-King Milan colors all that he writes. There are some good full-page illustrations, from photographs, of the chief actors in the drama, and the whole is in a readable, though rather sensational, style.

The Egyptian Sudan: Its History and Monuments. By E. A. Wallis Budge, 2 vols. With numerous illustrations; pp. xxviii., 625; x., 618. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$10.

The indefatigable keeper of the Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities in the British Museum has recently sent forth these two additional large volumes, the result of four missions undertaken for the British Museum between 1897 and 1902, and of a fifth on behalf of the new museum at Khartum, made in 1905-6. With the coöperation of the officials of the army of occupation and of the British government, Dr. Budge had everything to help him in his arduous task; and his volumes are a monument of research, both archaeological and literary. He has ransacked the accounts of earlier explorations, and has summarized critically the results. The whole is concluded with a history of the country from the earliest records to 1906. On some accounts Dr. Budge might better have made two books instead of one in two volumes. Even three books might have been better still: one dealing with scientific results, one giving an account of his interesting experiences, and the third devoted to the history proper. The subjects thus indicated are quite distinct and appeal to different classes of readers. As it is, the volumes form a thesaurus, with a physical unity which is somewhat forced.

Little systematic exploration of the Sudan has been done in many years; for

conditions are decidedly unfavorable; not only on account of the terrible climate with its intense heat and nightly cold, but more particularly on account of troubled political conditions. Hopes had been entertained that excavations would reveal much historical material, as has been the case in Egypt. But this hope seems unlikely of fulfilment. Funerary remains, so far as Dr. Budge's excavations prove anything, are almost entirely lacking. The bodies of the ruling classes seem to have been burned instead of being mummified, and the rich stores of amulets, gems, funerary furniture, etc., which have been found north of the first cataract, are wholly absent. Whether more careful exploration of town and cemetery sites, such as that practised by skilled and scientific explorers in the lower Nile valley, will bring its due reward, is doubtful; but one thing is sure, that such results can be attained only at great expense in money, and at the cost of untold personal hardship and privation on the part of the explorers. Dr. Budge's work of site-exploration was far from exhaustive. Some places he examined simply by looking over the surface of the ground; some he excavated in small part or merely tested in promising spots. Apparently the simple expedient of recording conditions with the camera was not extensively adopted. The difficulties involved would doubtless be great, but in no other way can an adequate record be kept.

Dr. Budge's account of what he saw and heard is interesting and instructive; his summary of previous labors is valuable, and his history of the country is appreciative and full; but what he has to say about actual excavation and exploration is extremely meagre and disappointing. A bibliography of nearly sixty pages, and an index occupying upwards of forty pages, form valuable aids to one who would pursue the subject in detail.

The Life of Cavour. By Edward Cadogan. New York: Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons.

Mr. Cadogan says in his preface:

The chief difficulty that I experienced in the preparation of this work lay in the fact that, hitherto, but few authoritative books have been written, dealing with the Italian political history of this epoch, and what few lives of Cavour have been published are either incomplete or inaccurate. This paucity of published material has proved a serious disadvantage.

First, as to the "paucity." There are eleven quarto volumes of Cavour's speeches; six large octavo volumes of his letters, edited by Chiala; two small quartos of his autobiographical notes and early life, by Bert; three volumes of letters, edited by Mayor, Bianchi, and Bert, respectively; the slender but precious sheaf of letters to Madame de Circourt; Castelli's recollections; William de La Rive's indispensable souvenirs; Chiala's "Politica Segreta"; Zanichelli's Selections in two volumes from Cavour's writings; Artom's biographical elucidation to the abridged edition of the speeches; and, though last not least, Massari's biography, which has much of the authority of an original source. This list, of books of first value only, numbers thirty volumes, aggregating about 15,000 pages; besides which there are several score of magazine articles and pamphlets which no

biographer should overlook. And this is the man about whom Mr. Cadogan complains there is such a "paucity" of material.

A little reading of Mr. Cadogan's book discloses why he cries paucity; incredible though it seems in one who undertakes to write about Cavour, he apparently does not know Italian. Imagine an Italian, ignorant of English, who presumed to make a biography of Lincoln and complained of the "paucity" of material. It happens that Cavour spoke and wrote French as readily as Italian, and that previous French or English biographers have translated from some of his Italian speeches and letters, so that Mr. Cadogan has access at second hand to some of the material, if he can read French. On this point we are not certain, because we find that he borrows (without credit) from the English translation of De La Rive (e. g., p. 45, which corresponds to pp. 104-5 of Romilly's paraphrase), instead of making his own version. Only once does he venture to quote an Italian phrase—Cavour's immortal "Libera Chiesa in Libero Stato," which he renders "A liberal Church in a liberal State" (p. 131). After that he was well-advised to borrow, and not to guess.

In Mazade and Countess Cesaresco he has excellent guides to the general interpretation of Cavour's career; but, in order to maintain the appearance of originality, he uses no footnotes to show where he has taken his quotation or his very language. He mentions Mazade only once, towards the end of his book, so far as we have observed; and he credits Countess Cesaresco with only one small anecdote (p. 27). His frequent practice is to "lift" without acknowledgment, sometimes quoting to the extent of whole paragraphs and pages, and then again taking without troubling himself to use quotation marks. For instance, on p. 188, he uses word for word Countess Cesaresco's translation of Victor Emmanuel's instructions to Della Rocca, without giving her any credit, and merely changing "terms" to "words," and "notwithstanding" to "nevertheless." These changes indicate, we infer, the sensitiveness of his conscience.

But he does not restrict himself to the Countess's monograph. He goes back to Dickey's books, to Bent's "Garibaldi," to Jerrold's "Napoleon III.," and to some similar products of a bygone generation, which have, *mutatis mutandis*, about as much value as J. G. Holland's "Life of Lincoln." From the start, he leans heavily on Edward Dickey. Now when Cavour died in 1861, Mr. Dickey, with the facility of a young journalist, dashed off, in five weeks, a biography of him which never was nor can be an authority, although Mr. Cadogan evidently imagines that it is. And he frequently cribbs Dickey's translations from the Italian, sometimes, e. g., pp. 329, 330, 331, without acknowledgement.

Such being Mr. Cadogan's methods, we need not be surprised that the book itself lacks value. The main lines in Cavour's career may be learned from Mazade, Countess Cesaresco, and others, but we have a right now to expect something more than a skeleton. And at every point, an expert sees at a glance that Mr. Cadogan is unfamiliar with the latest, or the most authoritative, native material. To take an example, his description of the party groups

in 1850 is wholly wrong; to make Cavour a member of the Left is as absurd as it would be to classify Arthur Balfour among the Laborites (p. 96). The number of smaller inaccuracies is literally legion. For example, Cavour was born August 10, not August 1, 1810 (p. 2). He did not resign from the army in 1832 (p. 17). His English friend's name was Brockedon, not Brokerden (p. 16). Rattazzi's (not Ratazzi) bill was carried in the Lower House by a majority of 80, not of 134; and it was the Bishop of Casale, not the Archbishop of Novara, who proposed the bishops' bribe (p. 135). Perhaps the most amusing blunder, however, is in supposing that Massimo d'Azeglio and his nephew Emmanuel (Piedmontese ambassador to London) were the same person. Imagine what the *Saturday Review* would say to a foreigner who rolled Lord John Russell and his nephew Odo into one! We have taken pains to expose this book because it is an example of a certain kind of false scholarship which ought to not be tolerated in English universities or by English critics.

The Philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche. By Henry L. Mencken. Boston: Luce & Co. \$2 net.

Franz Overbeck und Friedrich Nietzsche; eine Freundschaft. Von Karl Albrecht Bernoulli. Vol I. Jena: Eugen Diederichs.

Nietzsche we must regard physically and psychologically as a man essentially unfit who exploded in impotent wrath against a world that was crushing him. He was a victim of fever. His philosophy shows the same relation to reality as a nightmare bears to the objects it distorts and magnifies. If, as is sometimes supposed, truth is struck out from the clashing together of vicious extremes, Nietzscheism may have a useful office to perform in opposing its inhuman individualism to the no less inhuman collectivism that dominates so many minds. For our part we cannot hold such a supposition, believing rather that the conflict of extremes begets only mutual exhaustion, and that real progress is the work of those who through all the noise of opposition keep their eye on the golden mean. However that be, Nietzscheism has on the Continent of Europe become one of the motive powers of society, and it is time the English-speaking people became better informed about the author of it. There is a place, therefore, for Mr. Mencken's book. His exposition of Nietzsche's philosophy is clear, simple, and orderly, quite free from the cobwebs of metaphysics; if he shows bad taste in the details of writing, this may be passed over as a mark of zeal in imitating his master. We can commend the exegesis, though we repudiate the conclusions.

Mr. Mencken, it may be suspected, is not a Grecian, as he certainly is wanting in French. He ought to have emphasized the fact that the superman is fundamentally contrary to the ideal of the Greek aristocrat. Nietzsche got his notion of the slave race and the master race in society from a supposed division of Greek civilization into the "apollonian impulse to conform and moralize and the dionysian impulse to exploit and explore." But the Greek did not look for advance to any such crude balance in society between these two tendencies of

conservatism and radicalism. His aristocrat, on whom society was dependent for progress, as Pindar presented him in poetry and Plato in philosophy, was a man whose power rested essentially on self-control and a balance within himself of contrary faculties—the very opposite of the superman. The transference of this balance within the individual to a mechanical division in society of groups representing the extremes of temperament, and the belief that the same equilibrium will result, is one of the numerous errors springing to-day from a confusion of psychology and sociology. It is like a bad jest to suppose that, when the ruling caste has thrown off the sense of duty and responsibility, the slaves will retain these useful illusions and go on submissively performing the drudgery of the world.

The most unsatisfactory of Mr. Mencken's chapters is that on origins. It can only be due to ignorance outside of a narrow circle of reading that he does not once hint at the Roussellian sources of Nietzscheism. This is the more remarkable because even German critics are beginning to recognize that the romantic movement (of which Socialism and Nietzscheism are the two sociological poles) sprang almost full-grown from that teeming head. Rousseau based his philosophy on an absolute justification of the instincts. He regarded society as made up of a number of individuals each supremely egotistic. Harmony resulted not from discipline within the individual, but from a sympathy which allowed every other individual to develop himself without self-restraint. This combination of sympathy and egotism has in social theory split into two opposing schools—the socialists who make sympathy the rule of society and the Nietzscheans who preach pure egotism, extreme collectivism and extreme individualism. Health, it might seem scarcely necessary to observe, depends upon neither of these alone nor upon both together, balanced mechanically; but upon judgment and the rational discipline of the instincts within all.

The first volume of Professor Bernoulli's "Nietzsche" has just appeared and the second is promised for the near future. The work is embellished with a good portrait and has three appendices. The subtitle declares that it has been prepared *nach ungedruckten Dokumenten*. This work is perfectly independent in character, and has offended the devotees of the Nietzsche Cultus, which maintains an institution at Weimar with the philosopher's sister at its head, Mrs. Förster-Nietzsche, the author of the official biography of Nietzsche. Franz Overbeck, of Basel, was the lifelong friend of Nietzsche and the material here given makes the latter a little more human than the Weimar followers desire. Accordingly, through an enthusiastic follower of the philosopher, Peter Gast, the law has been appealed to in order to suppress this volume.

The American Government. By H. C. Gauss. New York: L. R. Hamersly & Co. \$5.

This volume of 371 pages is designed, as its author states, for the admirable purpose of making Federal practice "less of a mystery to the millions who are at once the sovereigns of the respective States and of the Federal Nation." It goes, however, far

beyond the ordinary manuals of civil government. We find here, for example, extensive lists of salaries in various branches of the government, the navigation regulations *in extenso*, an abstract of the pension laws, the boundaries of all the Congressional districts, a classification by ratings of all the vessels of the navy, a description of the uniforms and insignia worn in various branches of the service.

The fault of the book is that its policy in matters of detail is not at all uniform. The forest reserves, for instance, which are coming to be highly important features of the national administration, are treated in half a page, with not even a statement of their total area. There is no mention of the Naval Militia, with its 5,000 or more of enlisted men. The "permanent annual appropriations" of Congress, although they amount to nearly a hundred and fifty millions a year and are certainly as much a "mystery" to the outsider as any features of our legislative branch, have no mention at all. These are faults which a revision would easily remedy.

No one could browse among government records so much as Mr. Gauss evidently has done without coming upon many odd bits of information. The Weather Bureau official cipher is sampled on page 761. Allusion is made to such little known facts as the existence of a "California Débris Commission," created not to take charge of San Francisco after the earthquake, but to study the obstruction of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers. In general, the expository matter is clear and accurate, treating of actual practice rather than theory, as in such topics as "Senatorial Courtesy" and the Speaker's morning "levee," where members arrange in advance for "recognition" in the afternoon. The author confesses occasionally, like Dundreary, that there are "things no fellow can find out":

It is a matter of nice, if not altogether material speculation, as to whether the intricacies of the military pay have brought about the need of a corps of specially trained experts for its adjustment or whether the specially trained experts have brought about the intricacies of military pay. . . . The effect has been to put it almost hopelessly beyond the power of the civilian mind to understand all that is comprehended within the term "army pay."

There are eighteen pages of very bad index. The briefest examination discloses a dozen or so of entries which do not correspond to the actual paging. "Military Academy" refers on to "United States Military Academy," that in turn to "Military Academy" or "War Department," the latter having no reference in point except to a "pay table of officers at the Military Academy."

Science.

The thanks not only of scientific men, but of navigators, and indeed of the general public, are due the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press for publishing the scientific papers of Prof. George H. Darwin. In Professor Darwin one finds no exception to the rule that great Englishmen of science are distinguished by ability to keep their feet on the ground. Though the majority of Darwin's papers are chiefly

valuable as contributions to pure science, not a few, and especially such as deal with the theory of tides and other oceanic phenomena, have important bearings on the practice of navigation and therewith upon the material welfare of the entire world. The current of Professor Darwin's productivity, which began in 1875, has flowed steadily, with a single interruption (1893-5), through a period of more than thirty years. The resulting total of sixty-eight memoirs, chronological order being disregarded, falls readily into four groups, each of which will constitute a volume. The first, "Oceanic Tides" (G. P. Putnam's Sons), has just appeared. The second will comprise papers treating of tidal friction; the third, memoirs on figures of equilibrium of rotating liquid and on related topics; while the fourth, besides dealing with the theory of periodic orbits, will include articles on miscellaneous subjects. The fourteen memoirs of the volume in hand had their origin in "ideas initiated by Lord Kelvin," and it is accordingly the author's wish that this volume may be regarded as a tribute to that scientist. Owing partly to the mathematical methods of investigation and presentation and partly to the technical character of many of the topics, the work is, of course, in large part inaccessible to the general reader. But this is by no means true of the whole. For example, scientific literature will hardly afford the layman a better insight into the difficulties of scientific research or a better knowledge of the ingenuity and the moral qualities demanded of the investigator than is afforded by the thirteenth article, "On an Instrument for Detecting and Measuring Small Changes in the Direction of the Force of Gravity." Although the object—to detect and measure lunar disturbance—was not attained, it was found incidentally that the "earth's surface is in incessant movement, with oscillations of periods extending from a fraction of a second to a year." An attempt to measure the rigidity of the earth by a study of the tides of long period led to the conclusion, p. 346, that "whilst there is some evidence of a tidal yielding of the earth's mass, that yielding is certainly small and the effective rigidity is at least as great as that of steel." Of great practical importance to navigation is paper No. 7, "On Tidal Prediction," where tables are constructed and so explained as to adapt them to the mathematical capacity of an ordinary ship's captain.

The unscientific reader will find "Thomas Alva Edison: Sixty Years of an Inventor's Life," by Francis Arthur Jones (Thomas. Y. Crowell & Co.), a readable book; for it gives a vivid picture of an interesting personality. The literary critic and the scientific man, however, will not regard it as a finished piece of work, since it reads too much like a series of newspaper articles, or contributions to ten-cent magazines. Nevertheless, it holds one's attention to its account of the rise of a telegraph operator to a leading position among American inventors. The author is always laudatory and is not restricted by a sense of proportion. Moreover, the scientific man, acquainted with Swan's work with the carbon filament, Scott's phonograph, and the thaumatrope, is likely to regard Edison's invention of the incandescent lamp, the phonograph, and the biograph, as de-

velopments of old ideas rather than completely new creations; yet the picture of the inventor's remarkable powers of adaptation and extension of the work of others is a true one. Edison is entitled to the great credit of placing the Swan light in multiple, and the conception and execution of the plan of a central lighting station. He modified the phonograph in an unsuspected way, making it practically a new invention, and he developed the duplex telegraph into the quadruplex. Mr. Jones leaves the impression that the Edison storage battery is a complete success, and that it promises to revolutionize methods of locomotion; yet there are many experts in storage battery work who are not convinced of this. The fecundity of Mr. Edison's mind is fully set forth. It can be said of his ideas that they have been as numerous as the eggs of a salmon, and he would probably confess that, as in the case of the fish, only a small percentage developed to full size. But what a size some of them reached! No one can be brought in contact with him without feeling that he has remarkable powers; not the least is his ability to inspire his workmen with enthusiasm, and to choose able assistants to help him as mathematicians, chemists, and electrical engineers. He has shown great executive ability in organizing an inventor's laboratory of which he has always been the leading mind. The scientific man may object to his empirical methods and lament the cost of such methods; but the results detailed in Mr. Jones's biography are immensely impressive.

The pamphlet of Dr. J. Bresler, *Oberarzt* in Silesia, entitled "Religionshygiene" (Halle: Carl Marhold), is an inquiry into the effects of religion and religious thought upon the body. The author is convinced that the teacher of religion and the physician should cooperate for the highest good of man. He devotes an interesting section of his work to an account of the "Physiognomy of Those Engaged in Prayer."

The Cambridge University Press has started a new magazine, *Parasitology: a Supplement to the Journal of Hygiene*, edited by Dr. G. H. F. Nuttall and A. E. Shipley.

The American Philosophical Society will hold a general meeting in Philadelphia April 23, 24, 25, at which papers will be read on "Art and Ethnology," by Edwin Swift Balch, Philadelphia; "Photographs of Daniel's Comet," Prof. E. E. Barnard, Yerkes Observatory, Williams Bay, Wis.; "Mediaeval German Sculpture in the Germanic Museum of Harvard University," Prof. Kuno Francke, Cambridge; "Goethe's Private Library, as an Index of His Literary Interests," Prof. Waterman T. Hewett, Ithaca, N. Y.; "Recent Discoveries in the Pathology of Rabies," by Dr. Mażyck P. Ravenel, of Madison, Wis.; "Observations Regarding the Infliction of the Death Penalty by Electricity," Prof. E. A. Spitzka, Philadelphia; "Progress of Demarcation of the Boundary between Alaska and Canada," Prof. O. H. Tittmann, Washington; "Results of the American Museum Exploration in the Fayum Desert of Northern Egypt," Prof. Henry F. Osborn, New York.

The death is announced from Victoria of Dr. Alfred William Howitt, son of William

and Mary Howitt. He had played an important rôle in the life of Australia, having led the search party for the Burke and Wells expedition, and filled various governmental offices. He was best known for his anthropological theories. Among his publications in that study are "Kamelaroi and Kurnai" and "The Native Tribes of South-east Australia." The names of Mount Howitt and Lake Howitt in Central Australia are a memorial of his labors in that region.

Anton Edler von Braunmühl, professor of mathematics at the Technical Academy of Munich, has died in his fifty-fifth year. He has a number of mathematical works to his credit.

Drama.

The Malone Society will soon add two volumes to the four already published in its first year. One is a reprint of the 1605 quarto of the old "King Lear." The other will be a part of the society's "Collections," containing hitherto unknown dramatic fragments and the dramatic records preserved in the City "Remembrancia." In 1908 the society will issue five plays and another part of the "Collections."

Brooke's "Romeus and Juliet," edited by J. J. Munro, offers more opportunity for minute scholarship than Lodge's "Rosalynde" and Greene's "Pandosto," which have already appeared in this section of Duffield & Co.'s Shakespeare Library. Beginning with the fusion of what he calls an original "separation romance" and a "poison romance," Mr. Munro traces the sources of "Romeo and Juliet" from Masuccio Salernitano's "Cinquante Novelle" (1476), with as much clearness as can be expected in these tangled and often hypothetical questions, down to Brooke's poem of 1562, which is here edited and which was the immediate source of Shakespeare's play. In one of the appendices is shown the exact relation of Brooke to Boastuau, whom he translated, and pretty strong evidence is added to prove that Brooke was influenced in a number of passages by Chaucer's "Troilus and Criseyde." Mr. Munro adds one point to our knowledge of Brooke's life—or, rather, death. In a letter from Henry Cobham to Challoner, dated May 14, 1563, printed in the "Calendar of State Papers, Foreign, 1563," there is mention of "little Brook," who was lost with Sir Thomas Finch going over to Havre. This is apparently our Arthur Brooke, who, as we already knew, was drowned about this time.

D'Annunzio, according to reports in European papers, has finished "Amaranta," a drama of modern passion, and the libretto of an opera entitled "The Rose of Cyprus." He is also putting the finishing strokes to a new version of "Nero." Besides these, he is sketching the plots of two other plays, "Tristan and Isolde" and "Numa Pompilius."

A. R. Waller's translation of the plays of Molière, begun seven years ago, has been issued in eight handsome volumes by John Grant, Edinburgh. From the first the new version commends itself as a notably useful performance. We find on par-

allel pages a reprint of the authoritative French text of Despois and Mesnard, and a close English prose rendering, which, with certain limitations to be noted, may be described at once as quite adequate. The parallel arrangement should serve a double purpose. The reader whose primary object is a knowledge of the contents of Molière, such as may be gained from any faithful version, cannot escape contact with the original. On the other hand, the reader who does not find the French of Molière particularly difficult might nevertheless be grateful for the ready assistance to be had in moments of stress. The same stress, in diminished degree, seems to have been felt even by the translator, for here and there we come across a gratuitous departure from the sense of the original when that meaning is not at all obscure. Such instances, however, are rare. Nearly all the time Mr. Waller's prose follows Molière's prose or verse with fidelity. Where the present version often fails is in occasional inability to reproduce the high drollery of Molière when he is most extravagant. In the "Femmes Savantes" and in the "Bourgeois Gentilhomme" certain comic passages are turned into English with a fine verve, which unexplainably breaks down into a rather heavy pace, satisfactory but not inspiring. In this matter of unevenness our translator is at one with his predecessor, Van Laun, whose version, in general, shows no marked superiority. We may quote as an example of effective rendering the passage in which Monsieur Jourdain welcomes Dorimène to his house. In the French he says:

Madame, ce m'est une gloire bien grande de me voir assez fortuné pour être si heureux que d'avoir le bonheur que vous ayez eu la bonté de m'accorder la grace de me faire l'honneur de m'honorer de la votre présence.

This Mr. Waller translates:

It is too great an honor for me, Madam, to be conscious of my being blessed by fortune in being so happy as to have the felicity of knowing that you have had the kindness to grant me the grace of doing me the honor of honoring me with the favor of your presence.

The volumes are printed on heavy paper and tastefully bound in red and brown linen. There are thirty-one etchings by Champollion after Louis Leloir.

Several French books on the drama have recently appeared. Eugène Lintilhac, one time lecturer at the Sorbonne, and now a Senator of the French republic, publishes the third volume of his "Histoire générale du théâtre en France"; it is entirely taken up with comedy in the seventeenth century. A. Séché and Jules Bertaut, already known favorably for industrious investigation of nineteenth century documents, are joint authors of a useful book, "L'Évolution du théâtre contemporain." Émile Faguet, the Academician who succeeded Jules-Lemaître and J. J. Weiss in the historically influential position of dramatic critic at the *Débats*, contributes the preface; and there is an index of the names cited. Henry Lyonnet devotes the first volume of his "Dictionnaire des comédiens français"—an octavo of 640 pages—to "those of yesterday"; bibliography, bibliography, and iconography including portraits, autographs, views, and scenes. Émile Leroux (Pierre Nahor), of

the Comédie Française, in the guise of a novel, "Sous le masque," describes the entire life and trade of a French actor from his training at the State Conservatoire, through ups and downs of varying adventure and circumstance, to final recognition on the stage.

A. W. Pinero's new play has been put into rehearsal by George Alexander for production in London about Easter. The title selected for it is "The Thunderbolt," and the story deals with "an episode in the history of a provincial family." The cast will include Mr. Alexander himself, Louis Calvert, Norman Forbes, Wilfred Braycott, Julian Royce, Miss Mabel Hackney, Miss May Palfrey, and Miss Kate Bishop.

Rudolf Besier, author of "The Virgin Goddess," which was played by Oscar Asche at the London Adelphi, has translated Von Wildenbruch's "Maid of Rabenstein," a French version of which Bernhardt will produce in Paris before long. The story is mediæval, deals with the love of a noble youth for the daughter of an outlaw, and is reported to have some highly tragic moments.

Music.

Stars of the Opera. By Mabel Wagnalls.

New York: Funk & Wagnalls. \$1.20 net.

The Story of Minstrelsy. By Edmondstone Duncan. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons. \$1.25.

The growing attention to grand opera in this country is attested by the fact that some 250 performances were given in New York alone during the season closing this week, and by the breaking of ground for new opera houses in Philadelphia and Boston. To the vast majority of opera-goers "The singer's the thing," and these singers, fortunately, can be heard, too, in places where there is no opera house. How widespread is the interest in opera-singers throughout the country, is shown by the fact that Sembrich, Nordica, Gadschi, Calvé, and Schumann-Heink can make even more money giving concerts East and West than by retaining their positions at the Metropolitan or the Manhattan opera house. In preparing a volume on "Stars of the Opera" Mabel Wagnalls therefore made an appeal to a large circle of possible readers. Her book includes interviews with Sembrich, Eames, Calvé, Nordica, Lehmann, and Farrar. These interviews are all in good taste and authentic, each having been proof-read by the singer who gave it. In comparing the confessions of these famous artists, one is struck by two things: nearly all of them admit being nervous every time they go on the stage, and most of them preach the gospel of hard work. Sembrich says that she is now more nervous than she used to be because she knows better what perfection in art implies; she adds, "My whole life has been made up of hard work, always work." She thinks the task of an opera singer much more difficult than that of an actress, for in the drama it matters not if a word comes a moment sooner or later; but in grand opera a second's deviation might cause a disorder. Emma Eames says: "I am always nervous yet,"

and she has no time for social gayety. Nordica maintains that a vocalist who "only sings colorature rôles and nothing but Italian" is not so great an artist as one who has mastered rôles of several schools in several languages. Her own progress has not been by leaps and bounds but "more tortoise-like." Lehmann, at the age of sixty, admitted to the author that she still practised and studied "more than ever."

The wandering minstrel who forms the subject of Mr. Duncan's book may be regarded as in a way the precursor of the opera singers of our time. He did not work so hard, but his emoluments were sometimes comparatively as great as the opera singer's. In the fourteenth century there were festivities in England at which each minstrel received from forty to sixty-five shillings at a time when a workingman got only a penny for a day's work; and in regard to the year 1430 Hearne wrote: "Observe that in those days they payed there mynstrells better than theyre priestes," which, as the author suggests, may have been one reason why the clergy were jealous of the minstrels and persecuted them. Mr. Duncan has collected a vast amount of curious information of this kind in his 337 pages. His style is rambling; he does not aim at framing a regular history, but like Ritson in his "Dissertation," links together "little fragments and slight notices" that may "serve to gratify a sympathetic curiosity."

Oscar Hammerstein triumphantly closed his second season at the Manhattan Opera House last Saturday. There were altogether 115 nights and afternoons of opera, on which, including double bills, 124 operas were sung, in a few cases in part only. Three of them—"Carmen," "Les Contes d'Hoffmann," and "Louise"—reached 11 performances each, and it is likely that "Pelléas et Mélisande" would have won the same distinction had it not been produced so late in the season. At the other end of the list are "Dinorah" and "Andrea Chénier," with only one performance. The total number of operas heard was 23, averaging a little over one a week. Verdi was in the lead, with 29 performances; Massenet came next with 12; Offenbach, Charpentier, and Bizet had 11 each; Leoncavallo had 9; Donizetti, 8; Debussy, 7; Ponchielli, Gounod, Mascagni, Giordano, 4 each; Ricci, Berlioz, Mozart, 3 each; Meyerbeer, 1. Heinrich Conried's last season at the Metropolitan comes to an end with this week. It embraced 20 weeks, during which 131 performances were given, 74 of works by Italians, while the German composers had 45, and the French only 11. Wagner leads, as always, with 30 performances (including the Nibelung cycle to be given this month). Verdi and Puccini had 23 each; Boito, 7; Rossini and Gounod, 6 each; Humperdinck, Thomas, Mascagni, 5 each; Mozart, Leoncavallo, 4 each; Flotow, Giordano, Beethoven, 3 each; Cilea, 2; Donizetti, 1.

The regular season at Covent Garden, London, will begin on April 30 and end July 30. The list of singers engaged includes Nellie Melba, Luisa Tetrazzini, Emmy Desjonn, Ellen Gulbranson, Edyth Walker, Maria Gay, Louise Kirkby-Lunn, Mme. Rüsché-Endorf, Alessandro Bonci, Mario

Sammarco, Heinrich Knöte, Anton Scotti, Paul Knüpfer, Clarence Whitehill, Marcel Journet, John MacCormack, Anton Van Rooy, and the two German tenors, Jörn and Cornelius, who were very successful there last year. There will be three conductors, Hans Richter, Cleofonte Campanini, and Panizza.

One of the operatic novelties to be heard at the Metropolitan next season is D'Albert's "Tiefand," which is having a great success in German cities.

Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with the Chorale Finale to Schiller's "Ode to Joy," composed in 1822-23, the Benedictus from the great "Missa Solemnis" (1818-1822), and the slow movement from the String Quartet in F (Op. 135, composed 1826)—these three works form the fine programme with which Walter Damrosch will close the Symphony Society's Beethoven Cycle at Carnegie Hall, on Sunday afternoon, April 5. The soloists will be Mmes. Jomelli and Lansing, Messrs. Mannes, Miller, and Cunningham. The chorus of the Oratorio Society will be reinforced by forty selected male singers trained by Alfred Hallam of Mt. Vernon.

Pianists will be interested in the new edition of Liszt's First Concerto just issued by Schlesinger in Berlin; for it is edited by Eugen d'Albert, who was a pupil of Liszt, and who has embodied in footnotes all the hints regarding this work which Liszt gave him and his other pupils in 1882. He corrects some serious errors, especially regarding details of tempo, that have gained currency.

Art.

VICTOR CARPACCIO.*

With Giotto, Botticelli, and Tintoretto, Victor Carpaccio has enlisted Ruskin's special pleading. None of these artists, I feel, deserved such advocacy more, or needed it less. There can have been no time when he was not admired. Contemporary poets sang his praises. The garrulous Boschini, writing about 1660, when grandiose baroque lorded it at Venice, declared Carpaccio to be "as it were the brother of Giambellino." More than a hundred years later Zanetti praised unreservedly his gentle fidelity to nature, and noted his technique as a model for genre painting to the generation of Luca Longhi. Ruskin

*"The Life and Works of Vittorio Carpaccio," by Gustav Ludwig and Pompeo Molmenti, translated by Robert H. Hobart Cust (New York: E. P. Dutton & Co.), has a melancholy interest as the last work of that indefatigable investigator, the late Gustav Ludwig. It brings together in convenient form with abundant illustrations (more than 250) the scattered researches of the two authors, and contains a great amount of interesting information about the times of Carpaccio, and the confraternities for which he worked. The value of the book is chiefly antiquarian. The author's pet theory is that Sebastiano Lazzari was Carpaccio's first master. The attributions are generally of an uncritical sort. Many doubtful pictures are confidently ascribed to Lazzari and his so-called pupil, while the lists lack accredited works of each. In all matters critical the book should be checked by some more cautious authority. It is emphatically a contribution to history, not to connoisseurship. Mr. Cust has turned the Italian original, published two years ago, into fluent and idiomatic English. We note a number of disfiguring misprints, mostly in the captions of the plates, but none that are really misleading. Possibly the average reader should be warned that "Rosalba and Carriera," p. 53, are not two artists, but one. A serious defect is that there are no references in the text to the widely scattered illustrations, and vice-versa.

undoubtedly did a real service in hectoring a generation of hasty tourists into visiting St. George of the Slavonians, but I am convinced that the England that loved Wilkie and was rapidly learning to love the young Millais, Rossetti, and Burne-Jones must have come round to Carpaccio of its own accord, for he commands in some ways the most durable quality of art, charm.

In this regard no Venetian except Giorgione, who made charm merely one attribute of power, equals him. One would gladly discourse upon the mysterious attractiveness which makes a work of art, even though in no sense great, exempt from fluctuations of taste, assuring for it an apostolic succession of enthusiasts. One would like to determine the quality that, though not of its essence, gives to greatness itself a kind of buoyancy. To particularize, since a general discussion is out of the question, Correggio never has been and never can be out of fashion. Men may squabble about Jan van Eyck, but not over Memling. Raphael may be in or out of the mode, hardly Perugino, or Leonardo. Was there ever a time in the blackest dark ages when men did not admire Hellenic coins? Why does the *Hermes of Praxiteles* hang in millions of Western homes, where the power of Myron, the sublimity of Phidias, the god-like simplicity of the temple sculptors of Olympia are unfelt? If we could answer these questions, we might make short work of the criticism of Carpaccio. For his appreciation implies simply the analysis of his charm. In this endeavor we shall get little aid from the learned tome of Messrs. Ludwig and Molmenti, and less, perhaps, from the flights of Ruskin's eminently nonpictorial fancy. In the confidence that the region under survey is delightful we may the more lightly go our own analytical gait.

From Zanetti we may get a first clue in an obvious one. In the oratory of St. Ursula he had noted the rapt attention the poor folk gave to the pictures, and their immediate understanding of the moment and sentiment of the story in each. And indeed, Carpaccio is the consummate illustrator of all his contemporaries. In no other painted stories are the people more genuinely intent about their business, more serenely oblivious of the spectator, less prone to pose in the interest of art. One feels the absence of all formulas, and this among the Venetians, conscious decorators from the first, is rare. Only Gentile Bellini seems to bring to his work the same innocence of the eye. Carpaccio, with a craftsman's intuitive sense of the means at his disposal, has apparently set himself simply to telling his story clearly, with every agreeable trait that his palette could bestow. Thus he stands apart from the surging main current of Venetian painting, near the pleasant by-water of the book illustrators. No painter is really so much akin to him as the nameless draughtsman who did the pictures for the "*Hypnerotomachia*" about the time Carpaccio was completing the St. Ursula Series. His patrons again suggest the especial character of his art. For the great Venetian churches he did next to nothing. The little people who composed the *scuole* (religious confraternities) were almost his sole clients, and of these the minor, exotic schools, as those of the Albanians and the Slavonians. I presume

the altar piece for the Church of S. Giobbe, and the panel for the school of St. John the Evangelist were about the only commissions he had that were reckoned as first class.

This exceptional character of his work has given rise to various speculations as to his artistic origins. Messrs. Ludwig and Molmenti strive unconvincingly to prove that his senior, Sebastiano Lazzari, was his master. Now Victor Carpaccio is so much his own man that it seems of little importance who first taught him to grind colors. For that matter, his technical precedents are plain. In 1466, when Carpaccio could have been only a lad, Gentile Bellini painted two canvases for the famous school of S. Marco. They have not come down to us, but we are perfectly safe in assuming from the work of his pupils and his own later compositions that they were thinly painted, with tense contours and an especial and then novel regard for the placing of the figures and buildings in their true atmospheric relations. From that time on whoever painted a legend for a school perforce did it as much as possible in Gentile's way. Under this influence, let us beware of saying tuition, Carpaccio grew up, transforming the rigid formulas of Gentile into a manner all his own. Where Gentile is in a way epic, Carpaccio's story telling takes a lyrical color. Gentile, who surely is far the greater master, retains with all his sense of character something of the monotony and insensibility of the average mediæval *conte*; Carpaccio's story telling has the flexibility and variety of the Early Renaissance. Put any tale of Boccaccio's beside its hackneyed original and the same difference will be marked.

With Carpaccio set down provisionally as a most winning narrator we are still far from a definition of his charm. This merely brings him into a class with many other painters in many lands. It does not even distinguish his quality, say, from that of Benozzo Gozzoli, who is also an illustrator of the most engaging temper. The personal note of Carpaccio I find in a sort of delicate romanticism. His personages move often in real Venice (but in a Venice that is itself a fairyland), and more often still in a magic Orient glimpsed through the imperfect woodcuts in contemporary books of travel. Of course Carpaccio's Venice was less romantic to itself than it is to us after four hundred years. Yet we must not deny to the Venetians a capacity for appreciating their own picturesqueness. Their painting, their memoirs, too, show how fully conscious they were of their own pageantry. In fact the sense of contemporary romance is never wholly lost among naïve folk. Average London finds surely a daily glow in the spectacle of the Horse Guards; I have heard proletarian Paris cheer the Garde Républicain as it proceeded to pelt the helms and corselets with stones and scrap-iron improvised from the street gratings. We need not doubt that Carpaccio's Venice found the dandies of the Calza Club, who move daintily through St. Ursula's story, hardly less odd and even more exquisite than we think them to-day. It is significant, too, that these transcripts from the high life of Venice were ordered not for patrician sanctuaries, but to edify the butchers, bakers, and candlestick makers

who comprised the minor confraternities. It is among these people that the appeal of luxury and elegance is most strong. We may think of much of Carpaccio's work as affording a kind of sacred family story paper. Its popularity among the humble is the measure of the taste of Venice in her early prime.

Wherever we touch his work we shall find the ingredients of veritable romance. The Oriental piles in the series devoted to St. Stephen, St. Ursula, and St. George are evident attempts at local color many centuries before the phrase was coined. He had reconstructed after Reuwich's design a Jerusalem, concerning which he assured Frederick, Marquess of Mantua, "that in our days there is no other like it for excellence and complete perfection as well as for size." After Gentile Bellini he was the great Orientalist of his times, and in the fantastic exploitation of the theme one of the greatest of all times. Nor is his fancy less vivid when it moves in unplotted fields. Who can forget that grisly champaign, littered with mangled corpses, across which young St. George speeds intently, deftly placing the lance head in the dragon's very jaws? One remembers that steed with head coquettishly askance as if the impaling of a monster found him but half-breathed. The relish of stately incident in St. Ursula's legend, of adventure in St. George's, of bizarre incident in St. Jerome's—all these things mark Carpaccio as sealed of the romantic tribe. Nor is this glamour less strong in an apparently realistic subject, such as the Healing of a Demoniac, painted for the great School of St. John. These *ephebi* who swing gracefully to the oar over a canal as deeply blue as the Lake of Garda, these exquisites who halt curiously between cards and an assignation, these elders complacently waiting for the relic of the Holy Cross to work the accustomed miracle, all these might have been seen in Venice, but only one pair of eyes did see them with just this imaginative warmth. When I mark the contrast between the acolytes praying fervidly in the loggia, and the imposing dispassionate throng directly beneath, I am paradoxically reminded of certain thrilling operatic effects: for example, Aïda expiring melodiously, while the hieratic intonation proceeds unbrokenly above. In short with Carpaccio we are always finding that infusion of lyricism into incident which is of the very essence of romance.

His contemporaries thought him a realist, and in this he partly fooled them and partly not. True romanticism implies the wondering eye, and that is an extraordinarily fine instrument. I need hardly recall the remarkable bits of realism imbedded in Scott's novels to show that the two attitudes may be perfectly harmonious. One might say, indeed, that Scott could give a relative life to such imaginary portraits as his Louis XI. and Cromwell only because he could give absolute vitality to his real portraits, Dandie Dinmot or the squireens of "Rob Roy"; and it seems the defect of Hugo's romances that this saving reality is absent, sentimentality and grotesqueness taking the place of constructive imagination. Now Carpaccio's realm of faery never lacks this substratum of observation. Reassuringly real persons are

everywhere — the eternally painstaking scribe in the canvas of the Ambassadors and that magnificent presentment of a Renaissance scholar in his oratory which is incidentally a St. Jerome; one might add the horse who tosses his head in an agony of fear as St. George hales the damaged dragon to the marketplace. In fact, there is hardly a canvas that does not illustrate in many traits the sure and placid notation of something seen. One imagines Carpaccio moving in Venice in a constant thrill of pictorial expectancy. It is the attitude of the little masters of Holland, some of whose technical triumphs he anticipates by a century and a half. His interiors, St. Ursula's bedroom, St. Jerome's study, are seen, with a justness otherwise unexampled in Italy, as cubes of light containing objects enveloped in light as a medium. For anything comparable either as vision or accomplishment we must look to Vermeer, de Hooghe, or Chardin.

But Carpaccio's realism again is of a highly individual sort, consisting in a swift, summary, and skilful notation of the thing seen, not in the painful elaboration of its particulars and palpable relief. This suggestiveness brings him near certain impressionists of to-day. Where he stands apart both from them and from his contemporaries is in the absence of merely technical preoccupation. There is little of the striver or experimentalist about him, in spite of his isolated position. When he had mollified the stern manner of Gentile Bellini, he had learned enough for his own purposes. Just once in the splendid Presentation he vied with Giambellino, but in general the reforms of that master, the revolution effected by Giorgione, the early triumphs of Titian, failed to move him from his placid course. Where they contributed to a great style which we call Venetian, he remained contented with a delightful manner all his own. In his drawings we may detect his inner self. Take the charming sketch at Chatsworth, depicting S. Lorenzo Giustiniani standing with his attendants before a bay enclosed by a distant promontory. The pen has moved tranquilly about the forms in a kind of reverie, hinting at the character, fixing the atmospheric planes, suggesting the radiance of sky and water, but with only the slightest regard for the plastic reality involved. It was a time when precisely the problem of conveying a sense of relief from a flat surface was a general and passionate preoccupation, and it would be hard to cite an artist of equal parts in whom this concern was so slight. Most of Carpaccio's drawings are a weaving of delightful patterns, a snaring of selected incident. Within a narrow range he was almost a great technician, but, dealing preferably with the stuff that dreams are made of, he rarely made the last sacrifice to material ways and means. Always lovable, he seems to me great just once—unless, indeed, the Virgin of the Doge Giovanni Mocenigo in the National Gallery be his. Of that enigmatic masterpiece I still feel that the old attribution is the more tenable, but if it be Carpaccio's, it must be regarded as a conscious and successful adventure in the style of Gentile Bellini, a divagation for which we have already found a parallel in the altarpiece for S. Giobbe. Contentious issues apart, Carpaccio is surely great in

that extraordinary vision, The Two Courtessans, in the Correr Gallery. I suppose he may have intended some obvious symbolism in the peacock, the jackdaw, the dogs, which play joylessly, but if there were nothing but the figures, the apparition would not be less overwhelming. There they sit eternally waiting for the undesired smile of the wayfarer. Gorgeous they are, even beautiful, as their white shoulders and soft hands shimmer outside the stiff brocades—beautiful, yes, but with the hard and unhallowed fairness of enamelled blossoms that lie in a goldsmith's window and are sold for a price. The nearer face has the sly animalism of the adept, the younger profile, beside which on the parapet the artist has cruelly set an apple and two downy doves, reveals through its formal exquisiteness the tension born of sated and simulated passions. And both these queens of sordid tragedy are thrust out into a sunlight, kind even to them, but unperceived. A more startling, a more weirdly beautiful vision I hardly know in the whole range of painting. Velasquez might have seen the same thing as pitilessly, Manet might have created a pendant composition, or Degas. It is more real than reality. Last summer I saw such a mask peering over a balcony at Padua—eyes, headdress, facial muscles all composed of some weathered glaze, the furtive unseeing stare of emotional death in life—a veritable symbol of forespent desire. It was such an apparition as comes frequently to the artist, I take it, but rarely to us who follow him from afar. Where had I seen it all before? Why, of course, in Carpaccio's masterpiece at the Correr.

To many this canvas is the index of a greatness that might have been his. Such moments of clairvoyance could not have been rare with him, but too often some alien dream of romance overlapped them. We were ingrates to belittle the gift he brings, so simple, so refreshing, so immediate in its appeal to the need of romance in us; we shall be something less than critical unless we admit that we have this resource at the sacrifice of something after all much greater. M.

The present revival of interest in the art of William Blake brings out a thin book by Elizabeth Luther Cary (Moffat, Yard & Co.), rather profusely illustrated. There is not much danger of Blake's ever becoming a popular artist—his true qualities are not of a popular kind—and therefore Miss Cary's enthusiasm can do little harm. It would be well, however, if some entirely competent person should take the pains to write a really discriminating essay on that strange genius, who is occasionally great and often childish. It has not yet been done. Particularly welcome, in this volume, are the reproductions, from a manuscript sketch-book, of some of Blake's first sketches, sometimes in conjunction with the completed designs.

A very different artist, who is also enjoying a revived vogue at this time, is George Morland. One grows somewhat tired of biographies of him, and there seems no particular need for that by Sir Walter Gilbey and E. W. Cuming (The Macmillan Co.), except as a vehicle for the illustrations in color of which these publishers make a specialty. The subject was ill-chosen for the purpose. Morland's

warm brown tone, however agreeable in the original oil paintings, does not harmonize with white paper and printer's ink, and as colored book illustrations the plates are singularly ineffective, not to say unpleasant. The quality of art in them we must think somewhat thin, and we cannot believe the present valuation of Morland's works other than temporary.

G. Maspéro has contributed to the Bibliothèque de l'Enseignement des Beaux-Arts a handy book of Egyptian archæology. The companion volume on Greek archæology is by Max Collignon, the historian of Greek sculpture.

Owing to the continued interest in the exhibition of the works of Augustus Saint-Gaudens at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the time for closing the exhibit has been postponed until May 1.

Among the exhibitions at the dealers' galleries in this city are paintings by Eduard J. Steichen, Eugene Glaenger & Co.'s: till April 9; early Dutch and Flemish paintings, Ehrich's, April 10; modern Dutch and Barbizon paintings, Theodore C. Noë's, April 10.

At Christie's, London, March 14, the following pictures from the collection of William Connal were sold: Drawings: Sir E. Burne-Jones, The Bath of Venus, £588; The Wheel of Fortune, £262. Paintings: Sir E. Burne-Jones, A Wood-Nymph, £1,186; The Heart of the Rose, £525; The Pilgrim at the Gate of Idleness, £283; Albert Moore, Midsummer, £1,050; An Idyll, £378; Yellow Marguerites, £262; White Hydrangeas, £262; J. F. Watts, Orpheus and Eurydice, £336; Artemis, £252; D. G. Rossetti, Mnemosyne, £262.

The Prix Lemaire has been awarded to M. Barbeerin, a pupil of Professor Injalbert. The second Prix went to Mr. Bourget, pupil of Professor Mercié, and the third to M. Lejeune, another pupil of Injalbert. These honors are much coveted by the young sculptors of Paris.

The death in his sixty-fifth year is announced of Prof. Julius Lessing, director of the Museum of Industrial Art in Berlin. Among his works may be named "Altorientalische Teppichmuster," "Renaissance im heutigen Kunstgewerbe," "Muster altdeutscher Leinenstickerei," "Silberarbeiten des Anton Eisenhoit," "Kunstgewerbe als Beruf," and "Holzschnitzerei des 15 und 16 Jahrhunderts."

Finance.

CHEAP MONEY AND THE FINANCIAL OUTLOOK.

On Monday of this week the rate for demand loans in Wall Street went to 1 per cent. This, with the exception of one or two midsummer days in 1907, was the lowest rate since the twelvemonth following the setback of 1903. On Monday also, the rate for short-time loans in London declined to 2½ per cent., the lowest figure touched there since the middle of 1904. Our own rate for loans on two or three months' time have simultaneously declined to 3 and 3¼ per cent., the lowest level since the period immediately after the troubles of 1903, and 9 per cent. under the rate at the end of 1907.

On the Stock Exchange, where a rapid advance in prices had been in progress last week, this cheapness of money was assigned as a ground for expecting further recovery, both in financial values and in general trade. For, it was argued, the scarcity of loanable capital, with the resultant rates of from 10 to 125 per cent. for demand loans, and of 6 per cent. with a high commission for time money and merchants' borrowing, was the thing which paralyzed credit in 1907, and brought about the collapse. With loans now offered freely and at abnormally low rates, borrowers can, it was declared, be readily accommodated and the movement of industry proceed as before.

In cases of this kind light may be had by examining previous periods in which conditions have been similar. There are two notable instances. The so-called "rich men's panic" of 1903 was accompanied by great shrinkage of values, liquidation of debt, and curtailment of industrial activity. Actual cash, released from channels of active trade, poured back into bank reserves. By August, 1904, cash holdings of the New York banks were larger by \$111,000,000 than they had been a year before. The surplus over the required 25 per cent. ratio of reserves to deposits rose to \$58,613,000, which was \$37,000,000 above the same date in 1903. Along with this, rates for demand loans or "call money" went as low as $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent. per annum, and sixty-day loans as low as 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum. The upshot was that large financial and industrial interests borrowed heavily at these inviting rates. Loans of the New York Associated Banks increased \$109,000,000 in the eighteen weeks from June to October, and in the autumn a vigorous forward movement was under way, both on the Stock Exchange and in industry at large. Prosperity and trade activity seemed to have followed swiftly on the track of the low money rates.

The other precedent is that of 1894. We had passed through the formidable panic of 1893—a convulsion which, like that of 1907, was far more serious than that of 1903. The sequel, as regards the rate for money and surplus bank reserves was, however, exactly the same as in 1904. Demand loans at New York went below 1 per cent. at the very opening of 1894, and in eleven weeks of the year were quoted as low as $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent. During the greater part of the twelvemonth, loans for one and two months went at 1 to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.—that is to say, money was cheaper even than in 1904. In February, cash holdings of the New York banks were \$109,000,000 above the same date in 1893, and the surplus reserve, \$111,623,000, was the largest ever reported, before or since. The cause of these phenomena of 1894 was the same as ten years later—widespread liquidation of debt and trade reaction. But succeeding events were by no means the same as in 1904. The year drew to a close with business and industry steadily slackening. Liquidation continued, trade depression became profound and general; and, except for the brief and premature revival of 1895, the dull times prevailed until well into 1897.

Why should this outcome in 1894 have differed so diametrically from that of 1904, and which period is the fairer precedent for 1908? The answer must be sought in underlying conditions. Money rates may be

low for one or both of two distinct reasons. They may decline merely because the supply of reserve money and of loanable capital has increased; this was true both of 1894 and 1904. But they may also decline because financiers who buy stocks on borrowed money, and merchants who conduct their trade on borrowed money, have suddenly decided to limit their operations and reduce their borrowings; in other words, because demand is curtailed. Now this factor also was in operation during 1904 and 1894, but in a different way on the two occasions. Merchants and financiers who held off in 1904, presently discovered that they and the community at large were more frightened than hurt. Real prosperity had scarcely been checked; consumption went on as usual, the setback of 1903 soon appeared to be a transient affair.

No such happy discovery was made in 1894. The panic of the preceding year had disclosed a very weak condition of credit. Failures were numerous and disastrous in almost every branch of commerce; workmen were discharged in great numbers; and both in national finances and in agriculture, things went wrong. In other words, there was not the same basis as in 1904, on which to rebuild; and if there had been, the resources of merchants, manufacturers, and financiers, were too heavily impaired to admit of their borrowing freely. For it must always be remembered that however large may be the surplus reserve in bank, borrowing power must be based directly on possession of sufficient credit, and indirectly on opportunity for profitable use of the borrowed capital. Such borrowing power developed very quickly in 1904; it did not in 1894.

It is, therefore, the actual injury done to finance and industry by the panic of 1907 and by the conditions that caused it, which will determine the ultimate effect of the present low rates for money. This question has already been discussed in this column. Consensus of the best financial judgment at the present time is that conditions are more favorable than in 1894 and less so than in 1904. The absolute test will doubtless have been applied by early autumn.

A. Viallate, professor at the École des Sciences Politiques, publishes a work of timely moment, "L'Industrie américaine." Timely also are the determined attack and not less exact defence of the great French credit banks, which have at their disposition the major portion of the liquid fortune of France, and, consequently, a preponderant influence in international finance. The attack is signed "Lysis"; the author maintains that French gold is scattered abroad among foreigners, and not applied to necessary uses at home; the defence, understood to come directly from the Crédit Lyonnais, is signed "Testis." The two books give important flashes into what is darkness visible to many an accomplished student of international economy.

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Albanesi, Maria. *The Forbidden Road*. Cupples & Leon Co.
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Curry, S. S. *Browning and the Dramatic Monologue*. Boston: Expression Co.
Dark Ages and Other Poems. Longmans.
Douglass, John Jordan. *The Girdle of the Great*. Broadway Publishing Co. \$1.
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Houllevigue, L. *L'Évolution des Sciences*. Paris: Armand Colin.
Jebb, Camilla. *A Star of the Salons, Julie de Lespinasse*. Putnam's.
Knuth, Paul. *Handbook of Flower Pollination*. Translated by J. R. Ainsworth Davis. Henry Frowde.
Lewis, Arthur M. *Evolution, Social and Organic*. Chicago: Charles H. Kerr & Co.
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Manners, Robert. *Cuba and Other Verse*. Toronto: William Briggs.
Marks, Jeannette. *English Pastoral Drama*. London: Methuen & Co.
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North, Arthur Walbridge. *The Mother of California*. Paul Elder.
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Paternoster, G. Sidney. *The Master Criminal*. Cupples & Leon Co. 75 cts.
Powell, Frances. *Old Mr. Davenant's Money*. Scribners. \$1.50.
Programme of Modernism. Translated by Rev. Father George Tyrrell. Putnam's. \$1.50 net.
Ramsay, Sir James H. *The Dawn of the Constitution*. Macmillan. \$2.75 net.
Rand, Amy Carol. *The Commuter's Garden Record*. H. M. Caldwell Co.
Robinson, John Beverley. *Architectural Composition*. D. Van Nostrand Co. \$2.50 net.
Schaefer, F. W. *Oscar und Adolf*.—Diana's Diary. Chicago: Laird & Lee. 50 cts. each.
Schmid, Christoph von. *Easter Eggs*. London: George Bell & Sons.
Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*. Lamb Shakespeare for the Young. Duffield. \$1.
Smith, Vincent A. *The Early History of India*. Henry Frowde. \$4.75.

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 Stevens, Horace J. *The Copper Handbook.* Houghton, Mich.; Published by the author.

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 York, Wealthy Ann. *Some Adventures of Two Vagabonds.* Broadway Publishing Co.

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